INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES

GUIDE TO THE SOURCES OF ASIAN HISTORY

INDIA
3.1

National Archives

National Archives of India
Janpath, New Delhi-110001
1987

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PREFACE

This volume is the first in the series "Guide to the Sources of Asian History" pertaining to India. It covers records of eleven ministries of the Government of India out of a total of nineteen ministries that existed in 1960. Information about the remaining eight ministries and private records in the custody of the National Archives of India will be given in the second volume of the series. Records in the various archival repositories in India are generally open for research after 30 years of their creation, and 1960 has been taken as the cut off year, as this project is proposed to be completed by 1990. Organisational set-up of the various records creating agencies in this series has, therefore, been taken as it stood in 1960. This material has been dealt with in 11 chapters, thereby ensuring that each ministry is treated individually and separately. Further, these have been arranged alphabetically and do not in any way indicate the importance of records of one ministry over the other.

Each chapter gives the genesis of the present set-up, its organisational history, and functional changes from time to time. A list of some important documents of Indian and international importance with their references has also been appended. It is felt that this would permit the users to know the nature of the documents that might be available in each ministry as also to assess their importance. Bulk of records of each record series in a ministry has as well been given to facilitate the reader in getting an idea of the quantum of records that could be profitably perused.

It is hoped that this series of Guide would be a useful tool in the utilization of the rich collection of record holdings of the National Archives of India and help in promoting historical research.

R. K. PERTI
Director of Archives,
Government of India.

National Archives of India,
New Delhi,
16 October 1987.

INTRODUCTION

Origin of the Project

'Guide to the Sources of Asian History' is a part of UNESCO's comprehensive project 'Guide to the Sources of the History of Nations' initiated in 1959 in collaboration with the International Council on Archives. The Asian part of the project was, however, inaugurated at a planning meeting held at Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) during 2-6 July 1979, where the modalities of compiling the National Guide were discussed. After having participated in the Kuala Lumpur meeting India virtually launched the project in June 1984, with the constitution of an Advisory Committee, which deliberated and set the guidelines for preparing the Indian Chapter of the 'Guide to the Sources of Asian History'. Of the twelve Asian countries participating in the Project India has been allocated country number '3' for its Guides.

Plan of the Volumes

The present volume is the first in the series of six volumes of Guides proposed to be brought out by the National Archives of India to serve as a major reference media for holdings of archival repositories and other custodial institutions in India. The volumes have been planned as follows :—

Volumes 3.1-3.2	Guide to Records in the National Archives of India.
Volumes 3.3-35	Guide to Records in the State/Union Territory Archives in India.
Volume 3.6	Directory of Custodial institutions in India having records and manuscripts.

The first two volumes, as they are planned, relate to record holdings of the National Archives of India covering 30 linear kilometres of shelf space, spanning a chronological range of 330 years from 1630 to 1960. This variegated accumulation relates to commercial ventures of the East India Company, its administration after it took over government of the country, India under the direct British rule, and the early years of independent India.

Method of Implementation

The cut-off date for the volumes has been set at 1960. At this date the major executive functions of the Government at the centre were being carried out by nineteen ministries. The first two volumes of the Guide describe and provide information on these nineteen ministries, besides containing informattion about the 'Private Records' available with the National Archives of India.

Volume I of the Guide provides detailed description of the following seven series of records : Commerce and Industry, Education, Finance, Food and Agriculture, Home Affairs, Railways, and Works, Housing and Supply. The procedure adopted for description of these series in this Guide is to provide :

(a) organisational history of the Ministry and its predecessor agencies;

(b) chart showing growth of the Ministry;

(c) statement showing bulk of records of the series, with break-up in accordance with its organisational components (Division, Branch, Section, etc.), physical form (bundles of files, volumes, etc), alongwith chronological limits in each case and indication of available finding aids;

(d) some significant documents available in the series.

Besides, the volume carries notes on four agencies, i.e. Ministries of Information and Broadcasting, Irrigation and Power, Labour and Employment, and Rehabilitation. These notes have been prepared on the basis of information elicited from a variety of sources. The relevant data have substantially been collected from records of other departments held in the custody of National Archives of India, reports, and other published sources, including publications of the Ministries concerned.

The Guide is designed to aid research scholars, officials and other users of archives in identifying easily and quickly the series/groups of records of their interest. The brief organisational history that precedes the inventories is calculated to help the users in narrowing their area of search so that the process of retrieval does not involve unnecessary loss of time. Besides, the Guide has been made, as far as possible, clear, simple and unambiguous to enable the user to trace out documents and data of his interest.

National Archives of India

National Archives of India, formerly known as Imperial Record Department, was establishel in Calcutta in March 1891. In 1911, capital of India was transferred from Calcutta to Delhi and this necessitated the transfer of official records to the new capital. On completion of the contruction of the present building in 1926, shifting of records started and the entire bulk of records was transferred to Delhi by March 1937. However, after India achieved independence, the name of Imperial Record Department was changed to National Archives of India on 30 August 1947. The designation of the Keeper of Records was also then changed to the Director of Archives.

The National Archives of India is an attached office of the Department of Culture in the Ministry of Human Resource Development. It is the official custodian of all non-current records of the Government

of India and its predecessor bodies as also the former British Residencies in the erstwhile Indian States. Besides, it has a rich collection of private papers of eminent Indian leaders and British administrators, who have played a leading role in shaping the history of India. It also has a very sizeable collection of microfilms of records of Indian interest, which has been acquired from various countries in Asia, Europe and America.

All records, which are 30 years old, are open for consultation, though there are a few exceptions and restrictions to this general rule.* Special permission may be obtained from the concerned Ministry for consulting those set of records, which have not been transferred to National Archives of India as also the records otherwise closed, but available in the National Archives of India. Foreigners desirous of examining records in the custody of the National Archives of India are required to produce a letter of accredition from the institution sponsoring their studies as also from their respective Diplomatic Mission in India.

Research Room of the National Archives of India remains open on all days of the year excepting Sundays and three national holidays i.e. 26 January, 15 August and 2 October. While on working days, the Research Room is open from 9.00 hours to 20.00 hours, on holidays it remains open from 9.00 hours to 17.30 hours. For the benefit of scholars, reprographic and transcription services are available on payment within the National Archives of India. Information service is also undertaken by the National Archives of India on behalf of private individuals/institutions on pre-payment of prescribed search fee. Applications seeking information for permission to consult records are required to be addressed to the Director, National Archives of India, Janpath, New Delhi-110001.

System of Record Keeping

While consulting Public Records in the National Archives of India, users would come across certain technical terms, such as Consultations, Body Sheets, Proceedings etc. These terms had infact been used for records created by the Central Government in the course of its administrative activities. And, to facilitate their proper understanding, it is felt necessary to provide a short survey of the various documentation practices followed from time to time while creating records.

Initially business of the East India Company was disposed of in a Council of the senior Factors, which was presided over by the Chief Factor or the Governor. This Council usually, met once a week. Matters discussed there, and orders passed on them were subsequently recorded in a book. This book was originally called *Diary and Consultation Book*. Subsequently, it was designated as *Consultation Book* only. Besides, two more volumes were maintained : one contained copies of letters received, and the other had copies of letters issued by

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*For details see 'National Archives of India Historical Research Rules' in Appendix.

the Factory. Letters to and from the Court of Directors in England, containing summaries of transaction in India, and criticism of the Directors on the doings of the factories, instructions for future guidance etc. were however, bound in separate volumes.

With the increase in business, system of record keeping underwent slight change. Registers of letters received or issued were abolished. Secretary of the Council received and placed before it all documents for consideration. He also prepared minutes of the proceedings. These minutes were called *Body Sheets*. These included list of papers and orders, with resolutions, etc. recorded on them. Items in the *Body Sheets* were entered in the order in which the papers had been considered in the Council and numbered serially in that sequence. Subsequently, a full account of the Proceedings of the meeting, viz. all documents considered and orders passed on them were copied out in full in a volume, originally termed as *Consultation Book,* but later as *Proceeding Volume.* The original documents, from which copies were made, were called Original Consultations, and were kept in separate bundles. Certain communications, which were of routine nature, were not placed before the Council, and were disposed of over the signature of the Secretary. Copies of such papers were kept in a separate volume known as *Order Book.*

With the growing power of the East India Company, and expanding nature of its functions, matters other than trade and commerce also received its attention. Consequently, business of the Company was divided under various sub-heads like Secret, Public, Revenue, Political, Military, etc. But general documentation practice remained the same, though creation of every new department involved starting of a new series of records. Separate indexes were also prepared for each series to render contents of records easily accessible.

From 1860, a new system of recording proceedings every month was started and each proceeding was to be closed by the end of the month in which it had been started. This gave rise to creation of Monthly Proceedings, in place of the earlier Weekly Consultations. Further, each of the Proceedings were categorised as 'A', 'B', 'C', or 'Deposit' depending on their importance : 'A' Proceedings dealt with policy questions. They were invariably printed and their copies were sent to Secretary of State for India for information, while 'B' Proceedings dealt with important cases other than policy questions. These were not printed, though a table of contents of these papers was printed and kept in the volume of monthly proceedings. 'C' Proceedings dealt with routine papers of very little importance. 'Deposit' Proceedings, however, mainly comprised ordinary petitions or only the covering or forwarding letters received from other Presidencies. Another set of 'Secret' Proceedings was introduced at a later stage by Lord Mayo. Like 'A' Proceedings these too were printed. But copies of these were not sent to the Secretary of State for India for information, though these were reported separately, as enclosures to the Despatches to the Secretary of State.

Each of the above mentioned categories formed a distinct group and was assigned a separate set of serial number.

In course of time, this system underwent certain modifications. Monthly closing of proceedings was discontinued, and the files were kept open till completion of the transaction for which these had been created. Later, following the recommendations of the Secretariat Procedure Committee (1920), topical or subject-filling system was introduced. This system required that files in every branch/section of a Department should be opened in accordance with a list of pre-determined subject heading, but bearing consecutive serial number. The new system was introduced at first in the Commerce Department on experimental basis, and was adopted by the Home Department in June 1921. By 1923 it came into force in almost all Departments and Government establishments. In the early stages a file bore both the file number and the proceeding number in some Departments. But as the revised system got firmly established, the practice of giving Proceeding number on the file was dropped. This system continued with very little variation even in the post-independence period.

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

During the first half of the seventeenth century, the East India Company had established a series of trading centres, called 'Factories', in different parts of India.[1] Business in each of these Factories which initially related to trade and cognate subjects only, was conducted under the supervision of a Chief Member or 'Factor' who was styled as President (later on as Governor). He was assisted by a Council of Senior Members of the Factory. The same system was adopted in Bengal and it continued to function at the Council at Fort William when it became the centre of activities for the East India Company. However, with the acquisition of political power and territorial rights by the Company, its style of functioning underwent a change and two Departments, viz., 'Public' and 'Secret' were created with effect from 1 January 1764. While the Public Department was entrusted, among other functions, with matters concerning Shipping, Revenue, Accounts, the Secret Department controlled the relations of East India Company with the Indian States and all works connected with the formation and execution of military plans. Both these Departments were under one Secretary. However, during the years that followed work in both the Departments increased greatly and it was decided on 23 September 1783 to separate completely the Secret and Public Departments by appointing a separate Secretary for each. At the same time, functions allotted to each department were stated clearly. As a result, matters relating to commerce and shipping came under the Public Department. In May 1786, as per orders from the Court of Directors, a Board of Trade was set up, whose proceedings were transmitted to the Court under the head Commercial Department. However, under orders from the Court of Directors, despatches to the Court were sent under five separate heads, viz., Public, Political, Military, Revenue and Commercial. On 5 June 1818, the name of the Public Department was changed to "General Department" and it's Secretary designated as "Secretary to the Government in General, Foreign and Commercial Departments". An important change took place in 1819 with the formation of the Board of Customs, Salt and Opium. This new Board took over the work relating to "Salt" and "Opium" from the existing Board of Trade.

By the Charter Act of 1833 monopoly of Indian trade enjoyed by the East India Company was abolished, and consequently, its Com-

1. The period 1600—1748 has been generally described as the "Factory Period" in the history of the East India Company. Some of the important Factories established in the early period were at Surat, Ahmedabad, Broach, Masulipattam, Fort St. George, Hariharpur, Balasore, Hooghli, Patna, Kasimbazar, Bombay and Dacca. Factory records are preserved in the Tamil Nadu State Archives, Madras, and Maharashtra State Archives, Bombay, as well as in the India Office Library and Records, London. Microfilm copies of "Factory Records" pertaining to those at Calcutta, Balasore, Broach and Burdwan have, however, been acquired by the National Archives of India from India Office Library and Records, London.

mercial Department ceased to exist. Separation of the Secretariat of the Government of India from that of the Government of Bengal, led to the change of nomenclature of the "General Department" to "Home Department" on 1 May 1843. As earlier, matters concerning commerce and industry continued to be dealt within this Department.

A. *Commerce and Industry Department,* 1905-1920

The British Crown assumed responsibility of administering the East India Company's possessions in India in 1858. This resulted in a new approach of the Government towards its commercial interests. It was realized that the future development of Indian Commerce depended on the improvement in the quantity and quality of existing agricultural goods. Vast opportunities were thrown open for the promotion of commercial interests of India vis-a-vis other countries consequent to the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869. With a view to implementing this objective, a new department designated as the Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce was created in June 1871. It took up a certain portion of work concerning commerce and industry from almost all the existing departments of the Government of India. In July 1879, when the work of certain existing Departments of the Government of India was re-distributed, 'Commerce' became the responsibility of the newly constituted Finance and Commerce Department.

By a Resolution of the Government of India, a new Department of Commerce and Industry was created in March 1905. This Department was charged with the function of advising the Government of India on questions relating to the commercial treaties and commercial aspects of the contracts which the various departments entered into from time to time. J. P. Hewett was appointed as the Member-in-Charge of the Department and W. L. Harvey became its first Secretary.

The following subjects withdrawn from different departments were allotted to it :

1. Explosives, Petroleum and Factories from the Home Department;
2. Weights and Measures, Economic Products, Fisheries, Geology and Minerals, Practical Arts and Museums, Commercial Exhibition, Internal Land Trade, Inventions and Designs, and Emigration from the Revenue and Agricultural Department;
3. Trade and Commerce, Merchandise Marks, Merchant Shipping, Ports, Port-dues and Pilotage, Lighting of Coasts, Cotton Duties, Stationery and Printing, Supply of Stores, Statistics, Post Offices and Customs from the Finance and Commerce Department; and
4. Certain aspects of railway administration from Public Works Department.

The Resolution constituting the Commerce and Industry Department also provided for the appointment of a Director General of Commercial Intelligence in place of the Director General of Statistics. The new Officer was to act as an intermediary between the new Member of the Department of Commerce and Industry, and the mercantile community. F. Noel Paton was appointed as the first Director General of Commercial Intelligence on 27 February 1905.

On setting up of the Railway Board as an independent Department in 1908, the work relating to railway administration, which was being handled by the Commerce and Industry Department, was transferred to it.

In 1910 work relating to Excise and Salt was transferred from the Finance Department to the Commerce and Industry Department.

The work connected with Museums was transferred from the Commerce and Industry Department on 9 December 1910, to the newly constituted Education Department.

In April 1914, the work relating to collection and publication of statistics was taken away from the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and placed under independent charge of a Director of Statistics. G. Finlay Shirras was appointed as the first Director of Statistics.

On 1 March 1917, a new organisation known as the Indian Munitions Board was created and the function relating to supply of Stores, which had been so far dealt within the Commerce and Industry Department, was transferred to its charge.

In 1919, the subject of Civil Aviation, which had acquired great importance in the wake of World War I, was formally put under the charge of the Department of Commerce and Industry. On 1 January 1920, the work relating to the Peace Treaty with Germany, Enemy Debts and League of Nations was transferred to the Legislative Department.

On 1 March 1920, the Indian Munitions Board was reconstituted as the Board of Industries and Munitions. It was a temporary organization designed to close the war commitments of the Indian Munitions Board. The Board of Industries and Munitions took over the functions relating to industries from the Commerce and Industry Department, which was then designated as the Commerce Department.

B. *Commerce Department,* 1920-1946

C. *Ministry of Commerce,* 1947-1951

D. *Ministry of Commerce and Industry,* 1951-1956

Consequent on the transfer of business connected with the 'Industries' to the Board of Industries and Munitions which was created on

1 March 1920, the Department of Commerce and Industries was designated as the Department of Commerce. It continued to transact all business previously dealt within the Commerce and Industry Department, with the exception of such items which had been transferred to the Board of Industries and Munitions.

On 5 July 1920, the business connected with the subject "Emigration" was divided between the Commerce Department and the Foreign and Political Department. The matters relating to emigration to Egypt, Palestine, Mesopotamia and foreign countries other than Surinam were allotted to the Foreign and Political Department and those excepting these countries, were to be dealt within the Commerce Department.

On 3 August 1921, that part of the work relating to "Emigration" which was being conducted in the Commerce Department was transferred to the Revenue and Agricultural Department. From the same date the business connected with the Posts, Telegraphs, Telephones, Wireless Telegraphy, Cables and Civil Aviation was made over by the Commerce Department to the Public Works Department. Besides, the part connected with the administrative control of the 'Local Clearing Office' and the subject 'Peace Treaties' were transferred to the Legislative Department. On November 1, the Finance Department took over the business connected with Banking and on 17th of the same month, the subject head 'Inter-Provincial Migration' was taken over by the Department of Industries from the Commerce Department, while the business relating to the administration of the Indian Tea Cess Act IX of 1903 was made over to the Commerce Department by the Department of Industries. The latter Department also handed over to the former the subject 'Exhibition' from 16 April, 1923.

Consequent on the re-allocation of work among the Departments of the Government of India in May 1923, the Commerce Department was made responsible for all business connected with the administration of :—

(i) Shipping including (a) Lascar Seaman (b) Merchant Shipping (c) Ports, Docks, Port Dues, Pilotage (d) Lighting of Coasts (e) Inland Navigation (f) Fisheries.

(ii) Trade and Commerce including (a) Company Law (excluding Banking Law) (b) Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (c) Tariffs and Tariff Evaluations and Excise Duties other than administration (d) Foreign and Internal Trade (e) Commercial Education (f) Merchandise Marks (g) Weights and Measures.

(iii) Import and Export Regulation (including Export Cesses).

(iv) Exhibitions.

(v) Life Insurance.

(vi) Actuarial Works.

From 9 June 1924, all business connected with the administration of ecclesiastical matters and ecclesiastical establishments throughout British India was transferred to the Commerce Department from the Education, Health and Lands Department.

On 25 April 1935, however, the administration of the subject "ecclesiastical matters", including European cemeteries, was transferred to the Department of Industries and Labour from the Commerce Department.

On 8 November 1937, the Industries and Labour Department was abolished and its functions were distributed into three Departments : (1) Labour (2) Communications and (3) Commerce. The functions relating to "Industries" were transferred to the Commerce Department but the subject "Ports and Inland Navigation" was transferred from the Commerce to the newly constituted Communications Department. After the re-distribution of business of the Industries and Labour Department, the Commerce Department was left to deal with following functions :—

(i) Commerce (including Tariffs, Treaties, Foreign and Internal Trade, Intelligence, Companies, Commercial Education, Weights and Measures).

(ii) Industries (including Stores and Industrial Research, Exhibitions and Fisheries).

(iii) Industrial Property (Patents, Designs, Merchandise and Trade Marks).

(iv) Insurance and Actuarial Work.

(v) Shipping (including Lascar Seamen, Bengal Pilot Service and Lighthouses).

In August 1944, Mercantile Marine III Branch was created in the Commerce Department to cope with expanding mercantile marine activities.

After termination of the Second World War the task of giving a boost to the trade and commerce of the country as a part of the post-war reconstruction became a necessity. Consequently, it's planning became a responsibility of the Commerce Department. In the wake of India gaining independence and the various Departments of the Government of India getting designated as Ministries, the Commerce Department became Ministry of Commerce.[2] It became effective from 29 August 1947.

The above arrangement continued till February 1951 when the Ministry of Commerce and Industry was formed by merging certain wings of the Ministry of Commerce and that of the Ministry of

2. For the functions allotted to the Ministry of Commerce in 1948 please see Appendix XII in the *Guide to the Records in the National Archives of India*, Part VIII, (New Delhi, 1985).

Industries and Supplies.[3] The subject "Supplies" was taken over by the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power. In September 1956, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry was split up into separate Ministries to be designated as :—

(i) Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Industries and

(ii) Ministry of Heavy Industries.

The former took over all the functions dealt with previously in the Commerce Division and the Consumer Industries Division of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

On 17 April 1957, as a result of the re-organisation in some of the Ministries of the Government of India, both these Ministries were merged together to be designated once again as the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and consisted of the following Departments :—

(i) Department of Commerce and Light Industries,

(ii) Department of Chemical and Pharmaceutical Industries and

(iii) Department of Heavy Industries.

The new Ministry of Commerce and Industry was charged with the responsibility of works connected with the following :

National Instruments, Factory, Khadi and Village Industries Board, Handicrafts Board, Silk Board, Hindustan Cables, D.D.T. Factory, Penicillin Factory, Salt, Heavy Electrical Equipment Project, Hindustan Machine Tools, Fertilizers, etc.

E. *Indian Munitions Board,* 1917-1920

The Indian Munitions Board was created with effect from 1 March 1917. Its functions were "... to control and develop Indian resources with special reference to the needs created by the war, to regulate contracts, to limit and co-ordinate demands for articles not manufactured and produced in India, and to apply the manufacturing resources of India to war purposes, with the special object of reducing demands on shipping". The Board was entrusted with the following heads of business :—

(i) Control of supply of material (other than food or forage) for all Government purposes, civil or military.

(ii) Supply of war materials to or on behalf of His Majesty's Government, other than those furnished by Directorates under the Army Department.

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3. In 1943, as a result of the exigencies of the Second World War, the Government of India constituted the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies. This Department functioned till 1946 when a new Department of Industries and Supplies was formed. After Independence the designation of the Department of Industries and Supplies was changed to the Ministry of Industries and Supplies.

(iii) Establishment and maintenance of new Government factories for war supplies.

(iv) Disposal of applications for priority certificates.

(v) Control of the transactions by public in respect of such articles of actual or potential military value as might be mutually agreed upon by the Indian Munitions Board and the Department of Commerce and Industry.

The subject heads 'Hides and Wool' and 'Stores' which had so far been dealt within the Commerce and Industry Department were transferred to the Board with effect from 1 April and 17 September 1917 respectively.

In 1919 the work of the Priority Branch of the Railway Board regarding control and maintenance of supply of railway materials from the Indian resources, was also transferred to the Indian Munitions Board.

F. *Board of Industries and Munitions,* 1920-1921

The Indian Munitions Board was re-constituted as the Board of Industries and Munitions with effect from 1 March 1920. The new Board, however, was a temporary organisation designed to close the war commitments of the Indian Munitions Board and to undertake the initial work of industrial organisation including framing of proposals for creation of a new Department of Industries. While the control of Ordnance Factories was transferred to the Army Department, the new Board took over the business connected with the "Electricity" from the Public Works Department. The following subjects were transferred to it from the Department of Commerce and Industry :

(i) Geology and Minerals including the Geological Survey of India and administration of Indian Mines Act.

(ii) The Indian Explosives Act and the Indian Petroleum Act.

(iii) Salt.

(iv) Stationery and Printing.

(v) Inventions and Designs.

(vi) The Indian Factories Act.

(vii) Administration of various Acts relating to Steam Boilers.

(viii) Industries.

As a result of the formation of the Board of Industries and Munitions which had taken over the work relating to Industries, the Department of Commerce and Industry was designated as the Department of Commerce from 1 March 1920.

On 7 May 1920, the subject "Copyright" was transferred from the Education Department to the Board of Industries and Munitions.

G. *Department of Industries,* 1921-1923

On 15 February 1921, the Board of Industries and Munitions was abolished and in its place a new Department of Industries was created. The work connected with the closing of war commitments of the late Indian Munitions Board, which the Board of Industries and Munitions had been dealing with, and the disposal of surplus stores was entrusted to a separate temporary organisation under an officer designated as Chief Controller (Surplus Stores), who assumed charge on 1 January 1922.

The Department of Industries was made responsible for the following heads of Business : (i) Geology and Minerals including Geological Survey of India and the administration of Indian Mines Act, (ii) Salt, (iii) Indian Explosives Act and the Indian Petroleum Act, (iv) Stationery and Printing, (v) Inventions and Designs and Copyright, (vi) Factory and Labour Legislation, (vii) Legislation relating to Steam Boilers, (viii) Industries and Central Institutions for Industrial Training, (ix) Stores, (x) Legislation on the subject of Electricity.

On 17 November 1921, the business relating to "Inter-Provincial Migration" was also transferred from the Commerce Department to the Industries Department. The subject "Indian Tea Cess Act X of 1903" was, however, made over by the Industries Department to the Commerce Department.

H. *Department of Industries and Labour and its Successor Bodies,* 1923-1947

With a view to effect economy in expenditure, the Public Works Department was abolished and its functions were amalgamated with those of the Industries Department which was then renamed as the Department of Industries and Labour with effect from 16 April 1923.

The work relating to "Exhibitions" so far dealt within Commerce Department and the subject "Meteorology" previously administered in the Revenue and Agricultural Department was transferred to the Department of Industries and Labour, while the work relating to 'Salt' formerly dealt within the Industries Department was transferred to the Finance Department. The office of the Indian Stores Department was made permanent on 6 May 1924 under Department of Industries and Labour, and new rules were framed to regulate the purchase of stores by all departments/offices of the Central Government ard of the Local Governments and Administrations other than those of the Governor's Provinces.

On 1 April 1930, a Central Public Works Department was constituted in which the Public Works Department, Delhi, was merged. The new Department was made responsible for the Central Public Works in Delhi, the United Provinces and the Punjab (including Shimla).

It was placed under the administrative control of the Department of Industries and Labour.

In May 1932, the broadcasting service was taken over by the Government of India and was placed under the administrative control of the Department of Industries and Labour. In March 1935, the broadcasting organization was reconstituted under "Controller of Broadcasting". In June 1936, the designation was changed to "All India Radio".

The Department of Industries and Labour was abolished on 8 November 1937 and its functions were distributed among the Commerce and the two newly created Departments viz., (i) Department of Labour and (ii) Department of Communications.[4] The Second World War, which commenced in 1939, led to a tremendous increase in work. In order to cope with the work, on 20 July 1942, the Communications Department was split up into two separate Departments viz., Department of Posts and Air, and the Department of War Transport. On 28 August 1946, the Department of Posts and Air was reorganised and redesignated as the Department of Communications. The War Transport Department was renamed as the Transport Department. Similarly, on 8 April 1946, the Department of Labour was split up into two Departments viz. the Department of Works, Mines and Power, and the Department of Labour. In addition to the problems relating to labour, the new Department of Labour was entrusted with the responsibility of the rehabilitation of the civil and military demoblised personnel. It administered and controlled Employment Exchanges, Technical Training Centres, Labour Tribunals, etc. The Department of Works, Mines and Power was, on the other hand, entrusted with Public Works, Mines, Geological Survey, Stationery and Printing, Boilers and Explosives.

On the attainment of Independence the administrative structure of the Government of India underwent a major change and with effect from 29 August 1947, the various Departments of the Central Government Secretariat were designated as 'Ministries'. Thus the Department of Labour became the "Ministry of Labour", the Department of Communications became the "Ministry of Communications", and the Department of Works, Mines and Power was designated as "Ministry of Works, Mines and Power".

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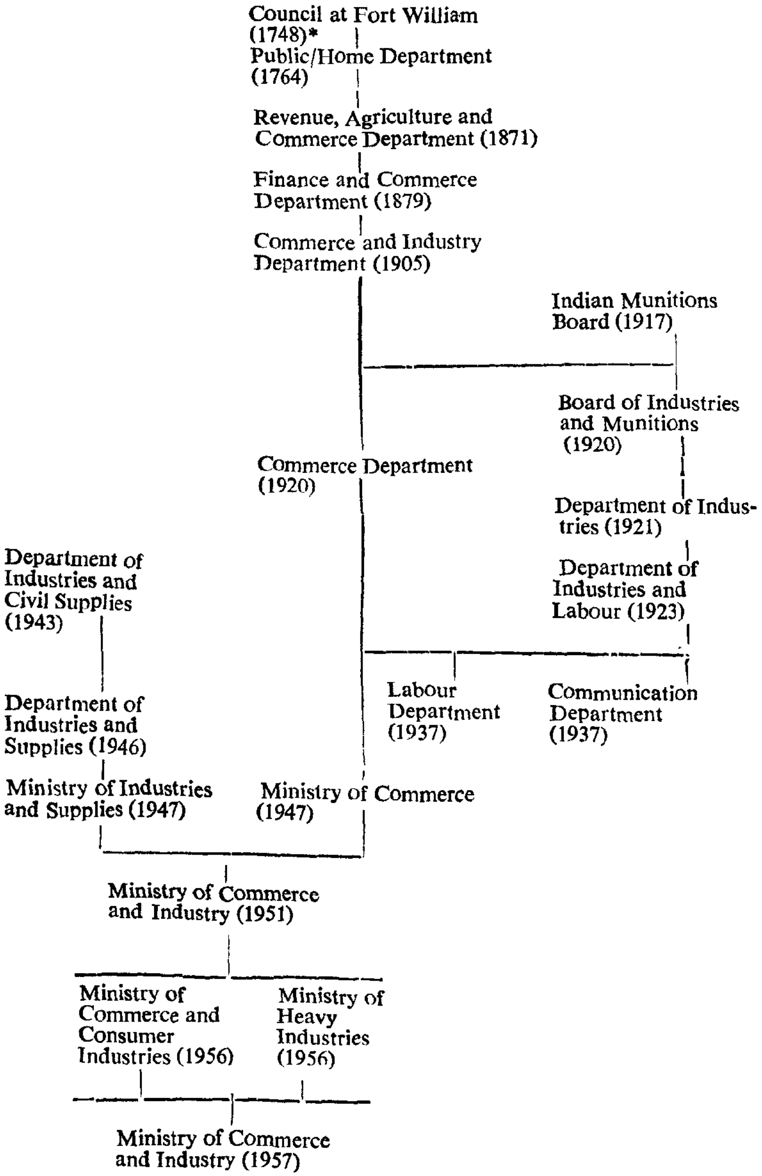
4. For the distribution of work between the Departments of Commerce, Communications and Labour, please see Appendix X in the *Guide to the Records in the National Archives of India*, Part VIII, (New Delhi, 1985) p. 322.

GROWTH OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY



*National Archives of India has in its custody records in regular series from 1748.

RECORDS AVAILABLE IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

A. Commerce and Industry Department	1905-1920
B. Commerce Department	1920-1947
C. Ministry of Commerce	1947-1951
D. Ministry of Commerce and Industry	1951-1956
E. Indian Munitions Board	1917-1920
F. Board of Industries and Munitions	1920-1921
G. Industries Department	1921-1923
H. Industries and Labour Department	1923-1937
I. Other Groups	

Separate Annual Indices of all the above groups, except Indian Munitions Board and Board of Industries and Munitions, are available. Indices of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry are available upto 1953 only. Annual indices of Departments of Home; Finance; Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce; and Finance and Commerce may, however, be consulted for the records prior to 1905.

Sl. No.	Description	Inclusive years	Bulk: Bundles	Bulk: Volumes
1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
	A. COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DEPARTMENT 1905-1920			
	Name of the Branch			
1.	Acetone	1917	1	4
2	Carbide	1905-1915	4	17
3.	Cash	1905-1920	2	—
4.	Civil Aviation	1919-1920	3	4
5.	Coal	1917-1920	5	12
6.	Coal and Iron	1905	1	—
7.	Commerce	1905-1918	1	—
8.	Commerce (War)	1914-1920	6	8
9.	Commerce and Trade	1905-1917	37	15
10.	Commercial Exhibitions	1905-1916	4	43
11.	Commercial Intelligence	1917-1920	3	12
12.	Companies	1912-1916	5	40
13.	Companies Law	1916-1920	1	44
14.	Cotton Duties	1905-1916	4	15
15.	Customs	1905-1916	53	137
16.	Customs Duties (including Cotton Excise)	1917-1920	9	48

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
17.	Customs Establishments . . .	1906-1920	22	52
18.	Customs and Statistics . . .	1919-1920	1	—
19.	Economic Products	1905-1910	4	18
20.	Electricity	1906-1911	4	12
21.	Emigration	1905-1920	65	70
22.	Excise	1910-1916	33	76
23.	Excise General	1917-1920	5	35
24.	Explosives	1905-1920	11	32
25.	Factories	1905-1920	12	32
26.	Fisheries	1905-1920	7	66
27.	Foreign Trade (including Dyes) . .	1917-1920	7	11
28.	General	1905-1920	33	60
29.	Geology and Minerals . . .	1905-1919	41	30
30.	Geology and Mines Establishment .	1917-1920	3	6
31.	Imports and Export Regulations . .	1917-1920	43	13
32.	Industries	1905-1920	27	41
33.	Inland Navigation	1917-1920	3	12
34.	Insurance	1913-1920	10	20
35.	Internal Land Trade	1905-1907	2	5
36.	Internal Trade (including Commercial Exhibitions)	1917-1920	6	12
37.	Inventions and Designs . . .	1905-1911	5	60
38.	Intoxicating Drugs	1918-1920	3	6
39.	Jute, Hides and Wool	1917	6	5
40.	Lascar Seamen	1918-1920	6	8
41.	Library	1905-1920	7	—
42.	Lighting of Coasts	1905-1916	4	26
43.	Liquor Excise	1918-1920	3	6
44.	Merchandise Marks	1905-1920	6	42
45.	Merchant Shipping	1905-1920	38	62
46.	Minerals	1920	1	—
47.	Mineral Resources	1917-1920	5	6
48.	Mines Regulations	1917-1920	3	6
49.	Patents and Designs	1912-1920	2	102
50.	Petroleum	1905-1920	9	30
51.	Ports and Lighting	1917-1920	3	9
52.	Ports, Port Dues and Pilotage . .	1905-1916	21	41
53.	Post Office	1905-1920	36	34
54.	Post and Telegraph	1906-1919	1	—
55.	Post and Telegraph Establishment .	1914-1920	20	12

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
56.	Post Office Establishment . . .	1911-1914	5	6
57.	Practical Arts and Museums . .	1905-1910	6	15
58.	Purchase Schemes	1918-1920	11	8
59.	Railways	1905-1911	5	3
60.	Railway Questions	1905-1908	1	2
61.	Salt	1910-1916	10	35
62.	Salt and Saltpetre	1917-1920	9	9
63.	Salt Establishment	1918-1920	3	5
64.	Shipping Control	1917-1920	12	8
65.	Stationery and Printing . . .	1905-1920	21	31
66.	Statistics	1905-1920	10	57
67.	Steam Boilers	1905-1920	4	27
68.	Stores	1905-1916	34	115
69.	Stores and Plant	1917	3	19
70.	Suspected Firms	1919	—	4
71.	Telegraphs	1905-1920	52	34
72.	Telegraph Establishment . . .	1905-1914	22	23
73.	Trade After The War :			
	i. Cotton	1919	2	6
	ii. Dyes	1919-1920	2	4
	iii. General	1919-1920	2	4
	iv. Hides, Skins and Leather . .	1919-1920	2	4
	v. Imperial Preference . . .	1919-1920	1	4
	vi. Japanese Activities . . .	1919-1920	1	4
	vii. Jute	1919-1920	1	4
	viii. Oleaginous Products . . .	1919-1920	1	5
	ix. Rubber	1919	1	4
	x. Wool	1919-1920	1	5
74.	Trading by Foreigners	1917-1920	18	1
75.	Weights and Measures . . .	1905-1920	1	48
76.	Wheat	1917-1920	2	16

B. COMMERCE DEPARTMENT 1920-1946

Name of the Branch

1.	Actuarial	1922-1923	1	2
2.	Administration (Commerce Establishment)	1945-1946	1	—
3.	Assam Labour and Emigration Act .	1921	—	11
4.	Cash	1920-1924	1	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
5.	Civil Aviation	1920-1921	3	2
6.	Coal	1920-1921	1	4
7.	Commerce	1920-1946	61	—
8.	Commerce (War)	1920-1921	3	6
9.	Commercial Education	1920	1	3
10.	Commercial Intelligence	1920-1923	8	8
11.	Company Law	1920-1923	5	8
12.	Customs Duties (including Cotton Excise)	1920-1923	11	2
13.	Customs Establishment	1920-1923	11	3
14.	Ecclesiastical	1924-1928	1	—
15.	Emigration	1920-1921	7	2
16.	Enemy Trading (A)	1941-1946	2	—
17.	Enemy Trading (B)	1942-1946	1	—
18.	Establishment	1923-1936	8	—
19.	Excise General	1920-1923	3	3
20.	Exhibition	1923	1	—
21.	Export Trade Control	1942-1946	1	—
22.	Fisheries	1920-1923	3	4
23.	Foreign Trade	1920-1923	11	7
24.	General	1920-1939	32	7
25.	Import and Export Regulations	1920-1922	4	7
26.	Import Trade Control	1941-1946	1	—
27.	Inland Navigation	1920-1923	3	8
28.	Insurance	1920-1943	42	8
29.	Internal Trade	1920-1923	7	8
30.	Intoxicating Drugs	1920-1923	4	3
31.	Lascar Seamen	1920-1923	7	8
32.	Library	1920-1938	8	—
33.	Liquor Excise	1920-1923	3	4
34.	Merchandise Marks	1920-1923	3	7
35.	Mercantile Marine—I	1929-1941	54	—
36.	Mercantile Marine-II	1929-1946	34	—
37.	Mercantile Marine-III	1944-1946	2	—
38.	Merchant Shipping	1920-1923	15	8
39.	Office Establishment and Cash	1923	2	—
40.	Ports and Lighthouses	1930-1937	7	—
41.	Ports and Lighting	1920-1923	10	5
42.	Post Office	1920-1921	5	2
43.	Post & Telegraph Establishment	1920-1921	14	2
44.	Purchase Schemes	1920-1921	2	6

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
45.	Shipping	1923-1929	54	—
46.	Shipping Control	1920-1923	3	8
47.	Stamps	1921-1923	2	30
48.	Statistics	1920-1923	5	8
49.	Stores	1938	1	—
50.	Suspected Firms	1920	—	1
51.	Tariffs	1923-1940	43	6
52.	Tariff Valuations	1923-1924	1	—
53.	Telegraphs	1920-1921	8	2
54.	Trade After The War :			
	i. Cotton	1920-1921	1	6
	ii. Dyes	1920-1921	2	8
	iii. General	1920-1921	2	6
	iv. Hides, Skins and Leather	1920-1921	3	6
	v. Imperial Preference	1920-1921	2	6
	vi. Japanese Activities	1920-1921	1	6
	vii. Jute	1920-1921	1	6
	viii. Oleaginous Products	1920	1	3
	ix. Wool	1920-1921	1	5
55.	Trading by Foreigners	1920-1921	8	—
56.	Treaty and Ecclesiastical	1929-1935	48	—
57.	Treaty	1936-1946	17	—
58.	Weights and Measures	1920-1923	1	6
59.	Wireless Telegraphy (Shipping)	1923	1	12

C. MINISTRY OF COMMERCE 1947-1951

Name of the Branch

1.	Administration	1947-1950	1	—
2.	Enemy Trading (A)	1947-1950	1	—
3.	Export Trade Control	1947-1950	1	—
4.	Mercantile Marine III	1947-1948	2	—
5.	Territorial (America)	1950	1	—
6.	Treaties	1947-1950	2	—

D. MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY 1951-1956

Name of the Branch

1.	Administration	1951-1956	1	—
2.	Establishment (A)	1951	1	—
3.	Export Trade Control	1951	1	—
4.	Tariff (A)	1951	1	—
5.	Territorial (America)	1951	1	—
6.	Territorial (Europe)	1951	1	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
E. INDIAN MUNITIONS BOARD 1917-1920				
Name of the Branch				
1.	Chemicals and Minerals	1917-1920	13	—
2.	Establishments	1917-1920	5	—
3.	Exports and Imports	1917-1920	1	—
4.	General	1917-1920	1	—
5.	Hides and Wool	1917-1920	1	—
6.	Home Indents	1918-1919	1	—
7.	Industrial Intelligence	1917-1920	15	—
8.	Post-war	1919	1	—
9.	Priority	1917-1920	2	—
10.	Steam Boilers	1920	1	—
11.	Stores	1917-1920	3	—
12.	Textiles	1918-1919	2	—
13.	Wool	1918	1	—
F. BOARD OF INDUSTRIES AND MUNITIONS 1920-1921				
Name of the Branch				
1.	Chemicals and Minerals	1920-1921	5	—
2.	Electricity	1920	1	—
3.	Establishment	1920-1921	5	—
4.	Explosives	1920-1921	1	—
5.	Factories	1920-1921	1	—
6.	General	1920-1921	3	—
7.	Geology and Minerals	1920-1921	1	—
8.	Geology and Minerals Establishment	1920-1921	1	—
9.	Industrial Exhibition	1920	1	—
10.	Industrial Intelligence	1920	5	—
11.	Industries	1920-1921	3	—
12.	Labour	1920-1921	2	—
13.	Leather	1920	1	—
14.	Mineral Resources	1920-1921	2	—
15.	Mines Regulations	1920-1921	1	—
16.	Patents and Designs	1920-1921	1	—
17.	Petroleum	1920-1921	1	—
18.	Stationery and Printing	1920-1921	1	—
19.	Stores	1920-1921	5	—
20.	Tea Cess	1920	1	—
21.	Industrial Education	1920	1	—
22.	Technical Education	1921921	1	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
	G. INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT 1921-1923			
	Name of the Branch			
1.	Chemicals	1921-1923	2	20
2.	Electricity	1921-1923	2	—
3.	Establishment	1921-1923	4	—
4.	Explosives	1921-1923	1	—
5.	Factories	1921-1923	2	—
6.	General	1921-1923	4	—
7.	Geology and Minerals	1921-1923	1	—
8.	Geology and Minerals Establishment	1921-1923	6	—
9.	Industrial Exhibition	1921-1923	1	—
10.	Industrial Intelligence	1921-1923	2	26
11.	Industries	1921-1923	3	26
12.	Inter-Provincial Migration	1921-1923	1	—
13.	Labour	1921-1923	11	—
14.	Leather	1921-1923	1	—
15.	Mineral Resources	1921-1923	3	—
16.	Mines Regulations	1921-1923	3	—
17.	Mining and Geological Education	1921-1923	1	—
18.	Patents and Designs	1921-1923	3	25
19.	Petroleum	1921-1923	1	—
20.	Stationery and Printing	1921-1923	10	—
21.	Steam Boilers	1921-1923	1	—
22.	Stores	1921-1923	9	25
23.	Tea Cess	1921	1	—
24.	Technical Education	1921-1923	2	—
	H. INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR DEPARTMENT 1923-1937			
	Name of the Branch			
1.	Accounts Civil Works	1923-1935	15	—
2.	Accounts General	1923-1935	14	—
3.	Accounts Irrigation	1924-1935	4	—
4.	Chemicals	1923-1937	1	—
5.	Civil Aviation	1923-1933	2	—
6.	Civil Works—Building	1923-1936	9	—
7.	Civil Works—Communications	1923-1937	2	—
8.	Civil Works—Irrigation	1923-1935	18	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
9.	Civil Works—Miscellaneous . .	1923-1935	7	—
10.	Copyright	1924-1937	1	—
11.	Decoration	1927-1935	3	—
12.	Electricity	1923-1935	4	—
13.	Establishment	1923-1935	17	—
14.	Explosives	1923-1935	5	—
15.	Factories	1923-1935	9	—
16.	General	1923-1935	20	—
17.	Geology and Minerals	1923-1935	32	—
18.	Geology and Minerals Establishment .	1923	1	—
19.	Industrial Intelligence	1923-1927	1	—
20.	Industry	1923-1936	13	—
21.	Inter-Provincial Migration . . .	1923-1935	6	—
22.	Labour	1923-1935	42	—
23.	Leather	1927	1	—
24.	Meteorology	1923-1934	14	—
25.	Mineral Resources	1923	1	—
26.	Mining and Geological Education .	1923	1	—
27.	Patents and Designs	1923-1937	9	—
28.	Petroleum	1923-1925	3	—
29.	Post Office	1923-1930	7	—
30.	Post and Telegraph	1923-1927	1	—
31.	Posts and Telegraphs Establishment .	1923-1931	16	—
32.	Posts and Telegraphs General . .	1923-1932	7	—
33.	Public Works Establishment . .	1923-1935	20	—
34.	Public Works General	1923-1935	16	—
35.	Stationery and Printing . . .	1923-1937	25	—
36.	Steam Boilers	1923-1935	4	—
37.	Stores	1923-1936	30	—
38.	Technical Education	1923-1935	4	—
39.	Telegraph	1923-1927	10	—
I.	**OTHER GROUPS**			
1.	Director General of Post offices . .	1905-1920	1	—
2.	Director General of Posts and Telegraphs	1905-1920	1	—
3.	Office of the Consulting Engineer .	1923-1930	2	—

SOME SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE SERIES

1. Quantity of salt manufactured and the revenue derived from it since the commencement of the monopoly, 1780–93.

   Finance, Separate Revenue, 8 May 1795, No. 4.

2. Revised arrangements for conducting the business of the Opium Department.

   Finance, Separate Revenue, 28 March 1815, No. 16 and 30 May 1815, Nos. 19-20.

3. Constitution of the Board of Customs, Salt and Opium and the transfer thereto of the powers hitherto exercised by the Board of Trade and Revenue in matters relating to salt, opium and customs.

   Finance, Separate Revenue, 30 April 1819, Nos. 1, 12 and 14.

4. Steam navigation encouraged by the exemption of steam-vessels from payment of export duty on Indian coal used by them on a voyage.

   Finance, Separate Revenue, 5 April 1830, Nos. 5-6.

5. Reduction of duty on cotton yarns manufactured in India.

   Finance, Separate Revenue, 25 May 1830, Nos. 1–3.

6. Rules encouraging exportation of country spirits by sea as merchandise.

   Finance, Separate Revenue, 1 January 1830, Nos. 5–8.

7. Export duty on rice raised to lower the price of the article for home consumers.

   Finance, Separate Revenue, 23 October 1857, Nos. 9–12.

8. Extension of the Imperial Telegraph system in the Marwar and Bikaner States.

   Commerce and Industry, Telegraphs 'A', September 1905, Nos. 8–11.

9. Proposed introduction of a uniform system of weights and measures in Madras Presidency.

   Commerce and Industry, Weights and Measures 'A', January 1906, Nos. 1–3.

10. Development of the coal fields at Ballarpur in the Chanda district of the Central Provinces.

    Commerce and Industry, Geology and Minerals 'A', August 1906, Nos. 8–11.

11. Mode of recording imports of spirits in the trade returns of the Customs Houses at Calcutta and Chittagong.

    Commerce and Industry. Statistics 'A', March 1907, Nos. 1-2.

12. Scheme for the establishment of Zoological Survey of India. Commerce and Industry, Practical Arts and Museums 'A', October 1906. Nos. 1-2.

13. Refusal of the Governor of French Settlements in India to accept the concession exempting from customs dues parcels intended only for French officials at Chandernagore and not for merchants and private individuals.

    Commerce and Industry, Customs 'A', March 1907, Nos. 15-16.

14. Liability to import duty on ornaments made in England from precious stones sent from India.

    Commerce and Industry, Customs 'A', July 1907, Nos. 49-50.

15. Conference of Curators of Museums in India.

    Commerce and Industry, Practical Arts and Museum 'A', December 1907, Nos. 1–17.

16. Provision of Post Offices at Railway Stations.

    Commerce and Industry. Railways 'A', March 1907, No. 1.

17. Measures taken by the associations of millers in the United Kingdom for co-operation with Government of India in improving the purity of Indian wheat and a suggestion by Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire Flour Millers Association for increasing the yield of Indian wheat.

    Commerce and Industry, Commerce and Trade 'A', February 1908, Nos. 1-2.

18. Steps taken for the improvement of the lighting and charting of Sind coast.

    Commerce and Industry, Lighting of Coast 'A', November 1908, Nos. 1-5.

19. Supply of chrome iron ore in India.

    Commerce and Industry, Geology and Minerals, 'A' October 1908, Nos. 5–8.

20. Suggestions made by the Chief Inspector of Explosives to prevent accidents of dangerous petroleum.

    Commerce and Industry, Petroleum 'A' May 1909, Nos. 1–7.

21. Establishment of a wireless telegraph station at Calcutta.

Commerce and Industry, Telegraphs 'A', January 1909, Nos. 1–13.

22. Final report on the Indian Section of the Franco-English Exhibition, 1908.

Commerce and Industry, Commercial Exhibition 'A', February 1910, Nos. 1–5.

23. Participation of India in the International Conference on Customs Statistics to be held at Brussels in September 1910.

Commerce and Industry, Statistics 'A', September 1910, Nos. 1–5.

24. Adoption of uniform method for the levy of landing and shipping fees on firewood at ports in the Madras Presidency.

Commerce and Industry, Ports, Port Dues and Pilotage 'A', May 1911, Nos. 6-7.

25. Participation of India in the Sixth International Congress of Chambers and Commercial and Industrial Associations to be held at Paris in June 1914.

Commerce and Industry, Commerce and Trade 'A', May 1914, Nos. 1–6.

26. Trading with the Enemy (War Book).

Commerce and Industry, Commerce and Trade 'A', October 1914, Nos. 50–62.

27. Hostile Foreigners trading in India.

Commerce and Industry, Commerce and Trade 'A', December 1914, Nos. 50-69.

28. Proclamations declaring articles to be treated as of War.

Commerce and Industry, Commerce and Trade 'A', October 1914, Nos. 1–18.

29. Correspondence between India Office and the London Houses of the Agent firms in India in connection with the scheme for the export of wheat from India on Government account.

Commerce and Industry, Commerce and Trade 'A', July 1915, Nos. 180–189.

30. Resolution regarding Imperial Preferences adopted by Lord Balfour's Committee on Commercial and Industrial Policy after the war.

Commerce and Industry, Trading by Foreigners 'A', April 1915, No. 115.

31. Proposals for the establishment of a permanent Commercial Museum at Calcutta.

Commerce and Industry, Commercial Exhibition 'A', February 1916, Nos. 1–11.

32. Treatment of hostile firms in the Punjab.

Commerce and Industry, Trading by Foreigners 'A', June 1917, Nos. 1-2.

33. Interim report on the jute presented by the Textile Committee.

Commerce and Industry, Trading by Foreigners 'A', May 1917, No. 131.

34. Treatment of enemy or alien shipping after the War.

Commerce and Industry, Trading by Foreigners 'A', March 1918, No. 13.

35. Formation of the Mines Equipment Priority Committee and the Kolar Gold Field Priority Committee for scrutinising and recommending priority applications in respect of plant and equipment required for collieries and gold mines respectively in India.

Indian Munitions Board, Priority 'A', May 1918, Nos. 25–91.

36. Purchase and stores of oil seeds in India for shipment to British and Allied manufacturers after the War.

Commerce and Industry, Trading by Foreigners 'A', June 1918, Nos. 3–6.

37. Scheme for the manufacture in India of casks for vegetable oil.

Indian Munitions Board, Industrial Intelligence 'A', April 1919, Nos. 1–71, File No. I. 346/1919 (Part I) I-I.

38. Report of the committee appointed to consider the future development of the town of Jamshedpur and the surrounding country.

Indian Munitions Board, Industrial Intelligence Part B, July 1919, No. 1, File No. I. 527/1919.

39. Scheme for the manufacture of standard cloth.

Commerce and Industry, Internal Trade 'A', July 1919, Nos. 1–23.

40. Views of the Government of India on the Resolution of the Imperial War Conference, 1918.

Commerce and Industry, Trade after War 'A', July 1919, Nos. 1–6.

41. Question of closing the Indian coastal trade to foreign vessels and restricting the employment of Indian Lascars on such vessels.

Commerce and Industry, Shipping Control 'A', September 1919, Nos. 29-30.

42. Notes on mineral production and mining for inclusion in the Moral Progress Report.

Commerce and Industry, Mineral 'Deposit' 1920, No. 15.

43. Proposed establishment of a monopoly Air Transport Company.

Commerce, Civil Aviation 'A', May 1920, Nos. 70–86.

44. Observation of the Government of India on the draft ordinance to provide for the well-being and control of immigrant labourers in Ceylon.

Commerce, Emigration 'A', November 1920, Nos. 132–148.

45. Education of Factory children in India.

Board of Industries and Munitions, File No. L-858 (i), November 1920.

46. Report on Labour strikes received from the Departments of the Government of India.

Industries, Labour, File No. L-811(i), January 1921, Serial Nos. 1–3.

47. Proceedings of the Washington International Labour Conference, the draft conventions and recommendations adopted by it and the report of the Government delegates to it.

Industries, Labour, File No. L-807(i), May 1921, Serial Nos. 1–36.

48. Inclusion of India among the eight states of chief industrial importance.

Industries, Labour, Part-B, February 1923, Nos. 1–4, File No. L-808 (10).

49. Resolution in the Legislative Assembly regarding the introduction of legislation prohibiting the employment of women in factories and mines six weeks before and six weeks after child birth and providing for an adequate maternity allowance during the period thus caused.

Industry and Labour, Labour, File No. L-920, 1923, Collection No. 3-A, Serial Nos. 29–34.

50. Formal inauguration of New Delhi.

Industry and Labour, Public Works Branch, Civil Works—Buildings, File No. 8-50 (176), May 1931.

51. Economic Report of Iraq.

Commerce, 'C', File No. 43-c(25)/1933.

52. Original Agreements of E. C. Gentry, Architect in connection with the construction of new capital in New Delhi.

Industry and Labour, Establishment (Works), File No. 33 (83)/1934.

53. A note on the history of the Central Public Works Department.

Industries and Labour, Public Works Establishment, Collection No. 61, File No. E/16 of 1936, Serial No. 531.

54. Economic Position and Prospects of the Colonial Empire.

Commerce, 'C', November 1938, File No. 5-C(9)/38.

55. Rehabilitation of trade with Germany.

Commerce, TL Europe 'B' January 1951, Nos. 1–86, File No. 117-CB(6)46 TL/Eur.

56. Policy regarding allocation for export of certain piecegoods and yarn during the year 1947.

Commerce E.F.C. (A) 'B', January 1951, Nos. 1–111, File No. 67-CW(27)/46.

57. Report from the Indian Government Trade Commissioner, Alexandria, on the Prospects of post-war trade between India and the Middle East countries.

Commerce and Industry, March 1951, File No. 30-C(2)/46, TL (ASU), Serial Nos. 1–4, 'B'.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

For many years after the East India Company had acquired the status of a territorial power, it did not have a specialised agency to look after educational matters, though it also had very little to do with education. But interest in education grew with the establishment of the Calcutta *Madrassa* by Warren Hastings in 1781 and business connected with it received attention of the Public Department in Bengal. In Bombay and Madras Presidencies, it was the Revenue Department that looked after the subject. This practice was adopted in Bengal too in 1785 when the subject of education was passed on from the Public to Revenue Department and it remained there till 1815. Subsequently, this work was transferred to the Revenue Branch of the Territorial Department.

On 18 July 1823, the subject of education came under the control of the Persian Branch of the Political Department, as the Government was then wedded to the idea of promoting oriental form of education, with its emphasis on Persian and Sanskrit learning. But when the post of Persian Secretary in the Political Department was abolished in August 1830, this subject was transferred to the General Department. On 1 May 1843, General Department was redesignated as Home Department and education remained with the Public Branch of Home Department till 1856. The Political Department, however, continued to look after educational matters in the Indian States and areas under its direct charge.[2]

The year 1854 saw a significant development in the history of education in India, when Sir Charles Wood, President of the Board of Control, urged, among other things, establishment of a Department of Public Instructions in each Province. Accordingly, in 1855 Department of Public Instruction was set up in each province to advise the Provincial Government on all educational matters. However, establishment of Universities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras in January 1857 meant an enormous increase of work for the Public Branch of Home Department. Consequently, a separate Education Branch was created in the Home Department in 1857 to deal with educational matters.

With the creation of the Education Branch, efforts were made to centralise all matters concerning education and on 4 October 1861 educational matters relating to Punjab, Oudh, Central Provinces,

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1. Records relating the Bengal Presidency of this period are available in the West Bengal State Archives at Calcutta. For details, see *Guide to the Records in State Archives of West Bengal,* Part I, 1758-1858 (Calcutta, 1977).
2. Political Department became a branch of the Foreign Department in May 1843.

Madras and Coorg, British Burma, Central India, Rajputana, Hyderabad and Rewa were transferred to it from the Foreign Department. However, the pressing need for economy in expenditure on civil administrative departments led the Government of India to re-distribute the work of various Departments on 1 July 1879. Consequently, Education along with Industry, Science, and Art was brought under the Education Branch of the newly created Home, Revenue and Agriculture Department. Though Revenue and Agriculture wings were separated from the Home Department in 1881, yet matters relating to Education, Examinations, Industrial Arts, Museums and Exhibitions continued to remain with the Education Branch of the Home Department.[3]

There was considerable educational activity following submission of Hunter Commission Report and to consider the plans for improvement of education in the country, a conference on education was convened by the Government in September 1901.[4] As a result of these deliberations, the post of Director General of Education was created. The Director General of Education henceforth became the principal adviser to the Governor General in Council and Provincial Governments on all educational matters. Another outcome of the Conference was the appointment of University Commission in 1902 to enquire into the working of the Indian Universities. Lord Curzon sought to bring under Government control the Universities and affiliated colleges as well as private schools, and this was achieved through the Universities Act of 1904. All these obviously necessitated further administrative changes and a separate Education Department was created on 9 December 1910 under the control of a new Education Member of the Governor General's Council. The new Department took over from the Home Department all works relating to Education, Local-Self Government, Sanitation, Ecclesiastical Affairs, Museums, Archaeology, Census, Gazetteers, Record Office, Imperial Library, etc.

On 13 February 1911, certain other heads of work like Orthography of Indian names, Congress of Orientalists, Ethnography, Zoological Gardens, Oriental Languages, Linguistic Survey, and Commemoration of Notable Buildings, which were till then dealt within the Home Department were transferred to the newly created Education Department.

As a result of the changes that were introduced with the creation of a separate Education Department, the post of Director General of Education was rendered redundant and was accordingly abolished. But evidence tendered before the Decentralisation Commission as also realisation by the Government of India that the Director-General had been instrumental in presenting an appreciation of provincial distinctions and difficulties before the Government of India led to the revival

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3. Towards the end of 1881, work relating to exhibitions was re-allocated to the Revenue and Agriculture Department

4. The Hunter Commission, headed by Sir William Hunter had been appointed by Lord Ripon's Government in February 1882.

of the post of Director-General of Education in February 1915 which was now designated as Educational Commissioner to the Government of India. Simultaneously, a Bureau of Education was set up under the charge of a Curator, and its duties included collection and collation of information on educational matters in India and abroad, and publication of reports and pamphlets on educational matters.

With the implementation of the Government of India Act of 1919, all educational responsibilities, except for those connected with such Universities as might be declared to be of all India character by the Governor General in Council, colleges for the Indian Chiefs, and educational institutions for the benefit of the Armed Forces and other public servants, were vested with the Provincial Government. Further the Centre reserved to itself the right to legislate on questions regarding establishment, constitution and functioning of the new Universities and questions affecting jurisdiction of any Universities outside any Province. Though under the Act, the Centre was constitutionally not to exercise any control over educational matters, nor was it to co-ordinate the educational activities of the Provinces, yet in order to maintain a liaison between the Government of India and the Provincial Governments, a Central Advisory Board was constituted in 1920. Other major functions of the Board were to advise the Government of India and the Provincial Governments on matters connected with Universities in India as also on general educational problems. In 1923, the Board was abolished as an economy measure.

Under the Act of 1919, subjects like Public Health, Sanitation and Medical Administration were brought under the purview of the Provincial Governments, though Centre's responsibility relating to these subjects was exercised through the Home Department. In March 1921 this charge was transferred from the Home Department to the Education Department, as a result of which the Education Department was re-named as the Department of Education and Health. In April 1923 in the interest of economy in expenditure, the Education and Health Department was amalgamated with the Revenue and Agriculture Department and was designated as the Department of Education, Health and Lands. The Bureau of Education was also abolished a month later.

Withdrawal of Central Government from active participation in educational administration, however, received adverse comments from the Hartog Committee which recommended that the Government of India should be constitutionally put in a position so as to make good the financial deficiencies in the field of provincial education, wherever necessary. The Government of India met these views only half way, and re-constituted the Central Advisory Board of Education on 8 August 1935. The chief function of the Board was to advise the Central Government on such educational matters that might be referred to it either by the Centre or by the Provinces. Further, the Bureau of Education, which had been earlier abolished as a measure of economy on the recommendations of the Inchcape Committee of

1921, was revived in June 1937 to facilitate the Board function effectively. In June 1945, the University Grants Committee was constituted to deal with various universities in an advisory and consultative capacity, and to coordinate their activities.

By this time, the Department of Education, Health and Lands had become quite unwieldy, and in the interest of efficiency, the Department was split on 1 September 1945 into three separate Departments, viz. (i) Department of Education, (ii) Department of Health, and (iii) Department of Agriculture.[5]

With a view to develop technical education in the country, an All India Council for Technical Education was set up in November 1945 by the Government. It was to be an advisory body, and its main function was to make a survey of the country as a whole for higher technical education, and to make recommendations for the establishment of specific types of technical institutions in various parts of India. On 2 August 1946, matters connected with Association of Moral and Social Hygiene in India, including Children's Court, and Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta, were transferred from the Home to the Education Department.

On India gaining independence various Departments of the Government were designated as Ministries. Accordingly, Department of Education became Ministry of Education in August 1947 and remained under the charge of a Cabinet Minister. In 1948 the Ministry of Education was administratively divided into four Divisions, viz. (i) Administration and Cultural Division, (ii) Development Division, (iii) Scholarship Division, and (iv) Technical Education Division.[6]

In April 1957 functions pertaining to Scientific Research were added to the Ministry of Education and it was now designated as Ministry of Education and Scientific Research.[7] Education, Cultural Activities and Physical Education, and Scientific Research and Technical Education, constituted its three Departments. However, in the reorganisation plan of 1958, Department of Education was redesig-

5. Department of Education dealt with all matters relating to general education in India (excluding professional education), administration of Benares Hindu University and Aligarh Muslim University, Imperial Library, Indian Museum, Imperial War Museum and Victoria Memorial. Registration of unofficial books, libraries, museums and records was entrusted to this Department. It also dealt with the work relating to Archaeology, Anthropology, Copyright, Literary Societies, etc.

6. For the functions allotted to the Ministry of Education in 1948, please see Appendix XI in the *Guide to the Records in the National Archives of India,* Part IV, (New Delhi, 1985).

7. Department of Scientific Research was created in June 1948 with a view to give boost to scientific research in the country. It became a Ministry in January 1951 when matters concerning Natural Resources were added. The new Ministry was designated as Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research.

nated as Ministry of Education, while Department of Cultural Activities and Physical Education, and Scientific Research and Technical Education were named as Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs.

GROWTH OF THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Public Department (1764)

Revenue Department (1785)

Territorial Department (1815)

Political Department (1823)

General Department (1830)

Home Department (1843)

Department of Education (1910)

Department of Education and Health (1921)

Department of Education, Health and Lands (1923)

- Department of Education (1945)
  - Ministry of Education (1947)
    - Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (1957)
      - Ministry of Education (1958)
      - Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (1958)
- Department of Health (1945)
- Department of Agriculture (1945)

RECORDS AVAILABLE IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

A	Education Department	1910-1921
B.	Education and Health Department . .	1921-1923
C.	Education, Health and Lands Department	1923-1945
D.	Department of Education	1945-1947
E.	Ministry of Education/Ministry of Education & Scientific Research	1947-1960
F.	Other Groups	

Separate Annual Indices of all the above groups are available upto 1945 only. Annual Indices of Departments of Public, Political (Persian) Foreign, Home, and Home Revenue and Agriculture may be consulted for records prior to 1910.

Sl. No.	Description	Inclusive years	Bulk	
			Bundles	Volumes
1	2	3	4 (i)	(ii)

A. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT 1910—1921

Name of the Branch :

1.	Archaeology and Epigraphy	1910-1921	31	34
2.	Books Distribution . . .	1912-1921	5	13
3.	Books General . . .	1910-1921	14	23
4.	Books and Publication . .	1910-1912	6	13
5.	Ecclesiastical	1911-1921	42	—
6.	Education	1911-1921	171	229
7.	Examinations	1911-1921	18	39
8.	General	1910-1921	40	39
9.	Local Board . . .	1910-1921	17	27
10.	Municipalities . . .	1911-1921	61	59
11.	Museums	1911-1921	8	20
12.	Sanitary	1910-1921	108	98
13.	Zoological Survey . . .	1916-1921	3	12

B. EDUCATION AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT 1921—1923

Name of the Branch :

1.	Archaeology and Epigraphy .	1921-1923	5	3
2.	Books Distribution . . .	1921-1923	4	—
3.	Books General . . .	1921-1923	5	2
4.	Ecclesiastical . . .	1921-1923	6	—
5.	Education	1921-1923	13	8
6.	Examination	1921-1923	2	2
7.	General	1921-1923	7	2

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
8.	Local Board	1921-1923	1	3
9.	Medical	1921-1923	11	2
10.	Municipalities	1921-1923	10	5
11.	Museums	1921-1923	1	2
12.	Sanitary	1921-1923	11	4
13.	Zoological Survey	1921-1923	2	2

C. **EDUCATION, HEALTH AND LANDS DEPARTMENT 1923—1945**

Name of the Branch :

1.	Agriculture	1923-1944	119	—
2.	Books Distribution	1923-1941	5	—
3.	Ecclesiastical	1923-1924	3	—
4.	Education	1923-1944	118	6
5.	Food Production	1943-1944	5	—
6.	Forests	1923-1940	70	2
7.	Forests and Lands	1939-1944	5	—
8.	General	1923-1945	43	—
9.	Health	1923-1944	118	13
10.	Lands	1923-1932	24	—
11.	Land and Overseas	1932-1940	62	—
12.	Local Self Government	1923-1932	9	11
13.	Overseas	1923-1932 1938-1941	53	—

D. **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION 1945—1947**

Name of the Branch :

1.	Administration-2	1945-1946	2	—
2.	Education (E-I)	1945-1946	10	—
3.	Education (E-II)	1946	1	—
4.	Education (E-III)	1946	1	—
5.	Education (E-IV)	1945	2	—
6.	General	1945-1946	1	—
7.	Overseas (OD-1)	1946	1	—
8.	Planning (P)	1946	1	—
9.	Resettlement	1945-1946	1	—
10.	Scholarship (S-1)	1945-1946	1	—
11.	Technical (T-1)	1946	1	—
12.	Technical (T-2)	1946	1	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	(ii)
E.	**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION/ MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION 1947—1960**			
	Name of the Branch :			
1.	Administration (A-I) . .	1948-1958	14	—
2.	Administration (A—2) . .	1947-1958	24	—
3.	Administration (A-3 & A-4)	1947-1954	5	—
4.*	Administration (A-5) . .	1950-1955	4	—
5.	Administration (A-10) . .	1957-1958	1	—
6.	Books (B-I) . . .	1950-1958	3	—
7.	Books (B-II)	1951-1958	26	—
8.	Books (B—III & B—IV) .	1953-1958	2	—
9.	Books (B-V & B-VI) . .	1955-1958	2	—
10.	Culture (C-I)	1953-1957	3	—
11.	Culture (C-II) . . .	1947-1958	1	—
12.	Culture (C-III) . . .	1956-1958	1	—
13.	Culture (C-IV) . . .	1957	1	—
14.	Copy Right Office (CO) . .	1958	2	—
15.	Coordination Unit . . .	1956-1957	1	—
16.	Commonwealth (CU-CCM)	1960	1	—
17.	Development (D-I) . .	1948-1958	9	—
18.	Development (D-2) . . .	1948-1954	1	—
19.	Development (D-3 & D-3U) .	1947-1958	19	—
20.	Development (D-4) . . .	1952-1958	3	—
21.	Development (D-5) . . .	1954-1958	6	—
22.	Development (D-6) . . .	1952-1958	5	—
23.	Development (D-7 & D-8) .	1954-1958	2	—
24.	Education (E-I) . . .	1947-1948	16	—
25.	Education (E-II) . . .	1947-1948	1	—
26.	Education (E-III) . . .	1947-1950	1	—
27.	E. C. I,II & III . . .	1956-1958	1	—
28.	Establishment . . .	1958	1	—
29.	General (G)	1947-1960	2	—
30.	General (G-1) . . .	1949-1953	6	—
31.	General (G-2) . . .	1948-1953	2	—
32.	General (G-3) . . .	1948-1953	5	—
33.	General Unit	1955-1958	1	—
34.	Hindi (H-I)	1953-1954	1	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
35.	Hindi (H-2)	1949-1959	5	—
36.	Hindi (H-3)	1952-1955	5	—
37.	Hindi (H-4)	1954-1955	1	—
38.	Overseas (OD-I & OD-II)	1947-1949	3	--
39.	Organisation and Methods (O&M)	1955	1	--
40.	Planning (P)	1947-1948	1	—
41.	Physical Education (PE-I)	1958	3	—
42.	Physical Education (PE-II)	1957-1958	6	—
43.	Physical Education (PE-III)	1957	1	—
44.	Resettlement	1947-1948	1	—
45.	Survey (S)	1950	1	—
46.	Scholarship (S)	1949-1950	1	—
47.	Scholarship (S-I)	1947-1959	1	—
48.	Scholarship (S-3)	1951-1958	1	—
49.	Scholarship (S-4)	1949	1	—
50.	Scholarship (S-5)	1947-1952	1	—
51.	Secondary Education (SE-I)	1957-1958	1	—
52.	Secondary Education (SE-II & SE-III)	1956-1959	1	—
53.	Secondary Education (SR-I)	1952-1953	2	—
54.	Secondary Education (SR-II)	1951-1953	2	—
55.	Secondary Education (SR-III)	1948-1953	4	
56.	Survey (Sur-III)	1958	1	
57.	S. W. I	1956-1958	1	—
58.	S. W. II	1958	1	—
59.	Technical (T)	1947-1951	1	—
60.	Technical (T-1)	1947-1958	7	—
61.	Technical (T-2)	1947-1956	5	—
62.	Technical (T-3)	1947-1951	1	—
63.	Technical (T-4)	1954-1958	4	—
64.	Technical (T-5)	1957	2	—
65.	Technical (T-6)	1948-1958	3	—
66.	Refugees	1950-1951	1	—
67.	University (U)	1948	1	—
68.	University (U-5)	1953-1958	2	—
69.	University (U-6)	1958	1	—
70.	Welfare	1958	1	

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
F.	**OTHER GROUPS**			
1.	Bureau of Education . .	1916-1922	1	—
2.	Central Advisory Board of Education	1921-1922 1935-1944	13	—
3.	Office of the Educational Commissioner . . .	1915-1922	8	—

SOME SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE SERIES

1. Governor General's minute regarding setting up of Calcutta *Madrassa.*
   Home, Public, 18 April 1781. No. 6.

2. Letter from the members of Asiatic Society of Bengal requesting the Court of Directors to obtain H.M.'s Letters Patent constituting the Society a Corporation.
   Home, Public, 3 October 1796, No. 27.

3. Macaulay's minute recommending the use of English as the medium of instruction.
   Home, Public, 7 March 1835, No. 15.

4. Lord Auckland's minute on Education.
   Home, Public, 16 December 1840, Nos. 25-28.

5. Lord Dalhousie's holograph minute on Female Education.
   Home, Public, 11 April 1850, No. 74.

6. Wood's Despatch on educational matters.
   Home, Public, Despatch from the Court of Directors, July 1854, No. 49.

7. Lord Canning gives assent to the Bill for incorporation of Universities.
   Home, Public, 12 December 1856, Nos. 53-55.

8. A letter from the Secretary, British Indian Association, North Western Provinces, to the Secretary, Home Department, Government of India regarding more extensive employment of the vernacular languages of India as the medium of instruction.
   Home, Elucation 'A', December 1867, No. 12.

9. Resolution of the Government of India dated 23 October 1884 containing main features of the Education Commission's report and views of the Government.
   Home, Education 'A', November 1884, No. 37.

10. Petition by Francis Maginn regarding establishment of a system of education for the deaf and dumb inhabitants of India.
    Home, Education 'A', September 1887, Nos. 31-36.

11. Appointment of a Director-General of Education for India.
    Home, Education 'A', October 1901, No. 19.

12. Scheme for establishment of the Indian Institute of Science.
    Home, Education 'A', February 1902, Nos. 5-9.

13. Resolution of Lord Curzon dated 24 October 1903 seeking Government control over the universities and affiliated colleges. The proceedings also contain a review of education in India from 1781 to 1903.
Home, Education 'A', November 1903, Nos. 42-47.

14. Creation of a separate Education Department on 9 December 1910.
Home, Establishment 'A', February 1911, Nos. 246-257.

15. Reorganisation of the Department of Education on a permanent basis.
Home, Establishment 'A', May 1915, Nos. 22-23.

16. Revival of the Central Advisory Board of Education.
Education, Health and Lands, F. No. 83-1/1934 E.

17. Resolutions of the Central Advisory Board of Education containing Wardha Education Scheme etc. forwarded to all Provincial Governments and Local Administrations.
Education, Health and Lands, F. 10-1/1939-C.A.B.

18. Search for British Chairman of the proposed University Commission.
Education, F.55-5/1947-E-1 (K.W.)

19. Note regarding Programme for development and propagation of Hindi.
Education, No. F. 2-35/1954-H 4.

20. Ways and means to make the programme of social education vital in the Community Development Programme.
Education, F. 4-40/1955-B. 2 (D.O.)

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Ever since the beginning of the eighteenth century, all matters concerning affairs of the East India Company were recorded in the proceedings of the Board of Council at the Presidency of Fort William at Calcutta, which was set up on 26 May 1700, and thus began recording of the proceedings of its meetings from 1704. These proceedings bear the heading 'Fort William' as no department had come into existence at that time. On 8 December 1763, for the first time, two Departments, viz., 'Public' and 'Secret' were organised giving rise to two distinct series of records, namely 'Public Consultations', and 'Secret Consultations'.

Whereas the Secret Consultations dealt with matters connected with diplomatic relations with princely States and outside agencies, 'Public Consultations' dealt with subjects like Appointments, Fortifications, Revenue, Accounts, Shipping, etc. In 1765, after getting the 'Diwani' rights from the Mughal Emperor, functions relating to management of Company's lands in Calcutta and 24 Parganas, collection of revenues of Burdwan, Midnapur, and Chittagong, disbursement of money and Company's investment were also recorded in the Public Consultations.

In addition, in September 1770 two Provincial Councils were formed for the purpose of revenue business—one at Murshidabad for Bengal, and the other at Patna for Bihar. But keeping in view increase in the volume of work of the Public Department, a 'Comptrolling Committee of Revenue' was set up in March 1771. This Committee was set aside in favour of a 'Council of Revenue' on 13 October 1772 and a year later the Council of Revenue became the 'Revenue Department'. From 1 June 1786 all functions regarding revenue administration began to be conducted through the medium of Board of Revenue.[1] A distinct 'Separate Revenue Branch' also began to operate under the Board from 1788 to deal exclusively with Government income accruing from Customs, Salt, Stamps, Excise etc. leaving 'Land Revenue' with the Revenue Department.[2] However, in 1793 central revenue derived from these subjects, was transferred from the Board of Revenue to the Board of Trade under the Public Department.

A very significant change took place in January 1810, when financial matters dealt with by the Public Department were separated

1. Board of Revenue was one of the four important Boards created in September 1785. The other three Boards were Board of Council, Military Board, and Board of Trade.

2. The entire series of Separate Revenue (1790-1859) is kept alongwith the records of Finance Department.

from other functions and started forming an independent series of Financial Consultations. In November 1815, Revenue Department, and the two Branches i.e., Financial and Separate Revenue of the Public Department were grouped into one Department called the Territorial Department and put under the charge of one Secretary. However, business relating to Separate Revenue was transferred from Territorial to General Department in March 1828.[3] Subsequently, Stamps, Excise and Assessed Taxes were added to the Separate Revenue Series in 1828, 1829, and 1843 respectively. In April 1830, the position of Departments as it existed in 1810 was repeated with the dissolution of Territorial Department, and financial matters once again came under the purview of General Department. In March 1832, separate consultations titled Mint was started within the Financial series of records.[4]

The year 1843, however, provided a distinct land-mark in the organizational history of the Government of India, when an entirely separate Secretariat for the Government of India was set up. On 4 January 1843, a distinct Financial Department for the Government of India came into existence. A further re-organization of the Financial Department took place in 1846, when Finance and Accounts of the Government of Bengal were completely separated from that of the Government of India. The Office of the Accountant General of Bengal was abolished, and Secretary, Financial Department, became ex-officio Accountant General of India, with power to supervise and examine the Indian accounts, and exercise complete control over loan operation. In December 1857, Accounts Departments in the three Presidencies were amalgamated and a General Department of Accounts was constituted on 1 May 1858, with Accountant General to the Government of India as its head. And, in November 1860, a new Board of Audit for India was constituted to monitor and control government expenditure. Henceforth, the Accountant-General was also designated as Auditor General of India.

The Government of India Act, 1858, changed the very structure of the Government of India. Under this Act, 'Board of Control' and 'Court of Directors', were abolished and in their place office of the 'Secretary of State for India' was created. Its work was facilitated by a council of members known as 'Council of India'.

With the introduction of budget system in India, presentation of annual budget became the responsibility of the Financial Department. The first budget of British India was presented in 1860-1861. After the introduction of Income Tax under Income Tax Act XXXII of 1860, the business relating to Income-tax, alongwith Licence-tax, Custom Duties and Stamp Revenue, was transferred from Home to Financial Department on 21 March 1861. But on 11 March 1862,

3. On 5 June, 1818 the nomenclature of Public Department had changed to General Department.

4. Mint Proceedings were also created by the Government of Bengal during the period 1834–1985.

custom duties and stamp revenue were once again placed under Home Department. In the same year, however, Financial Department took over the sole right of issuing paper currency notes. There was yet another change on 30 October 1862 when functions relating to Customs, Salt, Opium, Stamps and Excise were taken from Home Department and given to Financial Department. In 1864, 'Separate Revenue Branch' was transferred from the Home Department to Financial Department, where it dealt with Assessed Taxes, Excise, Opium and Stamps. In 1867 Post Office too came within the purview of the Financial Department and formed a Section of the Separate Revenue Branch. In 1876, when major distribution of work among various Departments of the Government of India took place, Financial Department was asked to administer Pay, Allowances and Finance Officers Branch in addition to the already existing subjects like Accounts, Leave and Leave Allowances, Mint and Currency, Pension and Gratuities and Separate Revenue. However, on 1 July 1879 Separate Revenue Branch became Revenue Branch.

Following recommendations of the Committee appointed under the Presidentship of Bazett Colvin for ensuring economy in expenditure, the work of the Government of India was re-distributed in July, 1879. Consequently, it was settled that work of the existing three Departments, i.e., (i) Home (ii) Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce and (iii) Financial, would be shared by two Departments, namely (i) Finance and Commerce, and (ii) Home, Revenue and Agriculture. But increasing pressure of work led to separation of Commerce from Finance and Commerce Department from 1 March 1905 and it resulted in the creation of a new Department of Commerce and Industry. In the changed set up, subjects like Post Office, Customs, Commerce and Trade (Statistics) were transferred to the Commerce and Industry Department.[5]

From 13 April 1906 'Military Finance Branch' in the Finance Department was authorized to look after military financial matters. This branch was abolished on 1 October 1913, and an office of the Financial Adviser, Military Finance, was created under the control of the Finance Department.

As a result of the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee certain re-grouping of Secretariat Departments took place in 1923, once again for the purpose of economy in expenditure.[6] Under the new arrangement Finance Department was allocated : General Finance, Customs, Taxes on Income, Salt, Opium, Excise, Stamps, Currency and Banking, Salaries and Allowances, Civil Accounts Department including Treasuries, Army Finance and the Military Accounts. Further, to relieve the Secretariat proper from the burden of detailed administrative control, a Central Board of Revenue was constituted

5. Salt and Excise were transferred to Commerce and Industry in October, 1910.

6. The Retrenchment Committee had been appointed by the Government of India on 13th June, 1922, to consider what retrenchment was possible with regard to the expenditure of the Central Government.

on 1 April 1924 to administer all the main heads of revenue, viz., Customs, Salt, Income-tax, Super-tax, Stamps, Opium and Excise.

Although under the Government of India Act of 1935, the Central Government gave away certain powers to the Provinces, the work load of the Finance Department did not decrease. It had now been saddled with the responsibility of providing financial assistance to the Provinces to meet their financial deficits. Consequently, Office of the Financial Adviser to the Governor-General was created to provide guidance on financial matters. A few years later, on 2 August 1946, a minor organizational change further took place ,when matters relating to "Money Lending and Money Lenders" were transferred from House Department to the Finance Department.

On 29 August 1947, Finance Department was designated as Ministry of Finance. Main functions of the Ministry at this stage comprised of control over entire expenditure of the Government of India, including Defence and Railways, raising of necessary revenues, and regulation of taxation and borrowing policies. To discharge these functions, the Ministry of Finance was divided into three Wings : (i) Expenditure, (ii) Economic Affairs, and (iii) Revenue. The Expenditure Wing had control over the expenditure incurred by the Ministries and other Departments of the Government of India, and consisted of five Divisions, namely—Defence, Railway, Communications, Trade and Industry and General. Similarly preparation of Annual Budget, Administration of Public Debt, National Savings, Public Accounts, Currency and Coinage, Banking, Exchange Control, Control over Capital Issues, Post-War Planning and Provincial Finances were the main subjects dealt with by the Economic Affairs Wing which comprised of Budget Division, Finance Division and Planning Division. The Revenue Wing dealt with policy and administration regarding assessment and collection of Central Revenues, and administration of (a) Income Tax Department, (b) Central Excise Department, (c) Customs Department, and (d) Opium Department.

In 1949, the three Wings of the Ministry of Finance were reorganised to constitute two Departments, viz., (i) Department of Revenue and Expenditure, and (ii) Department of Economic Affairs. In 1955, the Department of Company Law Administration was created and put under the Finance Ministry. Again, in 1956, the Revenue Division and the Expenditure Division within the Department of Revenue and Expenditure were separated, and constituted into separate fullfledged Department of Revenue, and Department of Expenditure. Thus in 1960, Ministry of Finance had four Departments, namely (i) Department of Revenue, (ii) Department of Expenditure, (iii) Department of Economic Affairs, and (iv) Department of Company Law Administration.

GROWTH OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Council at Fort William (1748)*

|

Public Department (1764)

|

Financial Department (1810)**

|

Finance and Commerce Department (1879)

|

Finance Department (1905)

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Ministry of Finance (1947)

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*National Archives of India has in its osutody records in regular series from 1748.

**Though designated as Financial Department, it functioned only as a Branch of the Public Department (1810-1815), Territorial Department (1815-1830) and General Department (1830-1843). It became an independent Department from 1843.

RECORDS AVAILABLE IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

A. Financial Department	1810-1879
B. Finance and Commerce Department	1879-1905
C. Finance Department	1905-1946
D. Ministry of Finance	1947-1953
E. Other Groups	

Separate Annual Indices of all the above groups are available. Annual Indices of Public Department may, however, be consulted for records prior to 1810.

Sl. No.	Description	Inclusive years	Bulk: Bundles	Bulk: Volumes
1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
A. FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT 1810—1879				
I. Pre-1860 Records				
1. Financial				
i.	Body Sheet	1810-1857	23	41
ii.	Consultation	1810-1859	586	287
iii.	Despatches to Court of Directors	1810-1859	—	53
iv.	Despatches from Court of Directors	1812-1859	—	49
v.	Order Book	1810-1855	—	55
2. Separate Revenue				
i.	Body Sheet	1817-1856	18	4
ii.	Consultation	1790-1857	208	130
iii.	Despatches to Court of Directors	1795-1857	—	21
iv.	Despatches from Court of Directors	1795-1857	1	17
3. Separate Revenue, Ceded and Conquered Provinces				
i.	Body Sheet	1803	1	—
ii.	Consultation	1804-1805	5	5
4. Mint				
i.	Body Sheet	1832-1856	4	8
ii.	Consultation	1832-1859	42	28
iii.	Order Book	1832-1856	—	9

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
5.	Miscellaneous Records			
	i. Board of Commissioners, Bihar and Banaras (Customs)	1816-1821	—	10
	ii. Board of Commissioners Ceded anu Conquered Provinces (Customs)	1807-1821	—	60
	iii. Board of Revenue, Central Provinces (Customs)	1822-1826	—	7
	iv. Boarb of Revenue, Fort William (Salt)	1788-1792	—	15
	v. Board of Revenue, Western Provinces (Customs)	1822-1825	—	12
	vi. Board of Customs, Salt and Opium	1819-1821	—	6
	vii. Collector of Customs, Bombay	1849-1859	2	—
	viii. Assistant Collector of Central Excise, Baroda	1839-1859	5	—
	ix. Committee of Accounts	1784	—	1
	x. Financial Secretary's orders	1845-1857	—	1
	xi. Letters from Finance Secretary to Government of Bombay	1852-1856	—	1
	xii. Letters from Finance Secretary to Government of Madras	1810-1813,	—	1
		1846-1852	—	1
	xiii. Letters from Finance Secretary to :			
	(i) Other officials	1810-1837	—	2
	(ii) Foreign Governments and Individuals	1847-1852	—	1
	xiv. Mint Committee			
	(i) Proceedings	1792-1858	—	74
	(ii) Letters from Secretary Mint Committee to Governor-General	1802-1818,	—	
		1856-1858	—	6
	(iii) Letters to Mint Committee from Revenue Department	1795-1802	—	
	(iv) Letters from Mint Committee to Revenue Department	1795-1802	—	3
	(v) Letters Received by Mint Committee	1802-1859	—	12
	(vi) General Orders of Calcutta Mint Master	1855-56, 1858-1859	—	2
	(vii) Benaras Mint Letters	1820-1825	—	1
	xv. Resolutions and orders by Financial Department	1830-1848	—	1

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
6.	Government of Bengal Records			
	(a) Financial			
	(i) Body Sheet	1836-1854	—	14
	(ii) Consultation	1834-1854	31	26
	(iii) Despatches to Court of Directors	1835-1854	—	14
	(iv) Despatches from Court of Directors	1834-1854	—	21
	(v) Order Book	1835-1854	—	16
	(b) Mint			
	(i) Body Sheet	1834-1850	—	5
	(ii) Consultation	1835-1854	13	19
	(iii) Order Book	1835-1854	—	8
II.	**Post-1859 Records**			
	(a) *Name of the Branch*			
1.	Accounts	1860-1876	65	11
2.	Accounts and Finance	1876-1879	349	330
3.	Establishment	1860-1864	7	30
4.	Expenditure	1863-1879	41	38
5.	Gradation List of Officers of Financial Department	1871-1873	—	3
6.	Income Tax	1862-1863	1	—
7.	Leave	1860-1879	33	9
8.	Licence Tax	1862	1	—
9.	Mint	1860-1864	2	—
10.	Mint and Currency	1864-1879	14	10
11.	Miscellaneous	1860-1864	3	—
12.	Pay and Allowances	1876-1879	8	9
13.	Pensions and Gratuities	1860-1879	27	11
14.	Separate Revenue	1860-1879	46	7
	(b) *Despatches*			
1.	To Secretary of State for India . . .	1860-1879	—	70
2.	From Secretary of State for India . .	1860-1879	8	28
	(c) *Miscellaneous records*			
1.	Minutes and Notes	1862-1879	1	12

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
B.	**FINANCE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT 1879-1905**			
(a)	*Name of the Branch*			
1.	Accounts and Finance	1879-1905	156	228
2.	Commerce and Trade	1879-1880	2	7
3.	Expenditure	1879	2	6
4.	Leave	1879-1880	1	—
5.	Leave Allowances, Pensions and Gratuities	1880	5	12
6.	Leave and Leave Allowances	1881-1905	32	66
7.	Mint and Currency	1879	1	—
8.	Pay and Allowances	1879, 1881-1905	31	38
9.	Pensions and Gratuities	1879, 1881-1905	44	67
10.	Revenue	1879	1	—
11.	Salaries, Establishments and Other Expenditure	1884-1905	59	81
12.	Separate Revenue	1879 1885-1905	1 105	— 125
13.	Separate Revenue, Statistics and Commerce	1880-1885	28	23
14.	Statistics	1879	1	7
15.	Statistics and Commerce	1885-1905	79	88
(b)	*Despatches*			
1.	To Secretary of State for India	1879-1905	2	126
2.	From Secretary of State for India			
	(i) Financial	1879-1905	—	1
	(ii) Financial Funds	1879-1905	—	1
	(iii) Financial Judicial	1886-1905	—	2
	(iv) Financial Military	1881-1905	—	1
	(v) Financial Political	1889-1905	—	1
	(vi) Financial Public	1879-1905	—	2
	(vii) Financial Revenue	1883-1905	—	2
	(viii) Financial Stores	1879-1905	—	2
3.	From Government of Bombay to Secretary of State for India	1879-1889	—	1
4.	To Government of Bombay from Secretary of State for India	1879-1898	—	1
5.	From Secretary of State for India to Government of Bombay ; Financial Stores	1879-1889	—	1
6.	To Government of Madras from Secretary of State for India : Financial Stores	1879-1889	—	1

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
(c)	*Miscellaneous records*			
1.	Minutes and Notes	1879—1905	—	25
C.	**FINANCE DEPARTMENT 1905-1947**			
(a)	*Name of the Branch*			
1.	Accounts	1925-1929	12	—
2.	Accounts and Finance	1905-1925	170	90
3.	Budget	1930-1946	26	—
4.	Cash	1925-1942	1	—
5.	Civil Service Regulations	1924-1927	10	—
6.	Communication	1937-1942	1	—
7.	Expenditure I	1925-1942	1	—
8.	Expenditure II	1925-1942	35	—
9.	Finance	1924-1944	154	—
10.	Finance I	1945-1946	9	—
11.	Finance II	1945-1946	9	—
12.	Financial Establishment	1924-1927	12	—
13.	General	1925-1939	1	—
14.	Intoxicating Drugs	1923-1924	2	—
15.	Leave and Leave Allowances	1905-1924	12	30
16.	Military Finance	1906-1913	7	—
17.	Pay & Allowances	1905-1910	3	—
18.	Pay, Allowances and Finance Officers	1916-1924	32	35
19.	Pensions and Gratuities	1905-1924	19	33
20.	Planning	1944-1946	6	—
21.	Planning I	1945-1946	4	—
22.	Planning II	1946	3	—
23.	Planning III	1946	1	—
24.	Reforms	1928-1937	11	—
25.	Regulation I	1928-1942	26	—
26.	Regulation II	1926-1944	43	—
27.	Salaries, Establishment and other Expenditure	1905-1925	35	39
28.	Salt Establishments	1923-1924	2	—
29.	Schedule	1930-1932	1	—
30.	Separate Revenue	1905-1924	78	—
31.	War	1941-1943	15	—
(b)	*Miscellaneous records*			
1.	Minutes and Notes	1905-1909	—	2

1	2	3	4	
			(i)	(ii)
D. MINISTRY OF FINANCE (1947-1953)				
(a) *Name of the Branch*				
1. Budget		1947-1948	7	—
2. Establishment IV		1946-1953	2	—
3. External Finance		1947	1	—
4. Finance I		1947-1948	10	—
5. Finance II		1947-1948	16	—
6. Planning		1947-1948	6	—
7. Planning I		1947	1	—
8. Planning II		1947	1	—
E. OTHER GROUPS				
1. Accountant General of Public Works Department				
Name of the Branch				
(i) Establishments		1893-1910	2	—
(ii) General		1882-1910	5	—
(iii) Irrigation		1896-1909	1	—
(iv) Railways		1893-1900	1	—
2. Board of Inland Revenue		1923-1924	4	—
3. Cancelled Securities of Old Loans, Bonds and Agency Department Records		1785-1881	3,300 Packets (Including Volumes)	
4. Central Board of Revenue				
Name of the Branch				
i. Administration (General)		1937-1946	21	—
ii. Administration (Income Tax)		1936-1946	32	—
iii. Administration (Opium)		1937-1944	4	—
iv. Administration (Salt)		1937-1946	20	—
v. Central Excise		1934-1946	29	—
vi. Central Excise (Tobacco)		1943-1946	4	—
vii. Custom Duties		1924-1928	23	—
viii. Custom Duties I		1928-1946	75	—
ix. Custom Duties II		1928-1946	50	—
x. Custom Establishment		1924-1946	85	—
xi. Customs (War)		1939-1946	9	—
xii. Excise and Opium		1925-1946	112	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
	xiii. General	1924-1937	22	—
	xiv. General I	1937-1943	7	—
	xv. Income Tax	1924-1946	155	—
	xvi. Intoxicating Drugs	1924-1925	3	—
	xvii. Salt Establishment	1924	3	—
	xviii. Salt	1925-1940	85	—
	xix. Salt II	1928-1930	8	—
	xx. Stamps	1924-1946	15	—
5.	Central Excise Collectorate			
	i. Baroda	1860-1942	5	—
	ii. Madras	1920-1949	1	—
6.	Collector of Customs			
	i. Bombay	1860-1934	3	—
	ii. Calcutta	1860-1933	1	—
	iii. Madras	1910-1954	1	—
7.	Commissioner of Customs, Salt Opium and Abkari, Bombay, Correspondence	1862-1915	—	72
8.	Commodities Price Board	1947	1	—
9.	Comptroller and Auditor General of India	1882-1959	44	—
10.	Financial Adviser, Military Finance			
	i. Proceedings	1913-1923	—	8
	ii. Despatches to Secretary of State for India	1913-1922	—	62
	iii. Despatches from Secretary of State for India	1913-1922	—	17
11.	Government of Bengal, Financial Department Separate Revenue (Salt, Customs)	1874-1905	3	—
12.	Government of Bengal, Revenue Department (Opium)	1891-1912	2	—
13.	Government of Bombay, Revenue Department (Salt)	1899-1925	6	—
14.	Government of Madras, Revenue Department, Miscellaneous (Salt)	1890-1925	34	—
15.	Government of United Provinces, Separate Revenue (Opium) Department	1911-1926	3	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
16.	Inlands Customs Department . . .			
	Name of the Branch			
	i. Budget	1876-1882	3	—
	ii. Establishment	1878-1882	10	—
	iii. General	1870-1882	11	—
17.	Inland Revenue Board	1923	3	—
18.	Mint Committee Proceedings	1861-1862	—	1
19.	Mint Masters General Orders	1870-1872	—	1
20.	Northern India Salt Revenue			
	Name of the Branch			
	i. Accounts	1927-1946	20	—
	ii. Budget	1882-1924	4	—
	iii. Establishment	1882-1947	30	—
	iv. General	1882-1946	60	—
21.	Travancore-Cochin Banking Inquiry Commission	1956	4	—

SOME SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE SERIES

1. Permission accorded to the Company by Siraj-ud-daulah, Nawab of Bengal, to erect a mint in Calcutta.
   Public, 28 April 1757, Page No. 102 (Volume).
2. Constitution of a Mint Committee for superintending the Mints and enquiring into general state of Coinage in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.
   Mint Committee, 14 May 1792, No. 1.
3. Supply of coins to the Government of the Isle of France (Mauritius).
   Financial, 16 August 1811, Nos. 8-9.
4. Loan of a crore of rupees taken by East India Company from Nawab Vazir of Oudh (Awadh).
   Financial, 11 November 1814, Nos. 1-2.
5. Regulations for altering the standard of Calcutta *Sicca*, Rupee and Gold *Mohar*.
   Financial, 24 December 1818, Nos. 9-14.
6. Increase in Capital Stock of Bank of Bengal from Rupees fifty *lakhs* to seventy *lakhs*.
   Financial, 7 March 1825, No. 14.
7. Printing of Notes of the Tanjore Debt.
   Financial, 10 June 1835, Nos. 6-7.
8. Company's rupee declared equivalent to Surat, Farrukhabad, Madras and Bombay rupees.
   Financial, 7 October 1835, No. 10.
9. Separation of finance and accounts of Government of India from that of Government of Bengal.
   Financial, 27 March 1846, Nos. 8-10.
10. Establishment of a General Department of Accounts for whole of India and appointment of Accountant-General of Government of India.
    Financial, 4 December 1857, No. 3.
11. Constitution of Board of Audit.
    Financial, Accounts 'A', 16 November 1860, No. 51.
12. Suggestion of the British Indian Association, Calcutta, relating to introduction of Gold currency into India.
    Financial, Mint and Currency 'A', September 1864, Nos. 315-316.
13. Creation of the post of "Comptroller General of Accounts", as head of the Audit and Accounts Department.
    Financial Expenditure 'A', October 1865, Nos. 45-51.

14. Financial decentralisation and subsequent enlargement of financial powers and responsibilities of Local Governments and Administrations.

    Financial, Accounts and Finance 'A', January 1871, Nos. 20-57.

15. Introduction of Currency Notes of Rs. 10,000/- and indent upon Secretary of State for India for 27,000 such Notes.

    Financial, Mint and Currency 'A', January 1872, No. 9.

16. Proposal for a Bill to make coins of Princely States a legal tender in British India.

    Financial, Mint and Currency 'A', July 1874, Nos. 6-13.

17. Prohibition imposed on movement of salt from Rajputana, and Central India Agencies into British Territory.

    Financial, Separate Revenue 'A', July 1879, Nos. 345-348.

18. Free export of rice and paddy into French Settlements in Madras Presidency.

    Finance and Commerce, Separate Revenue 'A', August 1880, Nos. 1469-1474.

19. Representation from Manchester Chamber of Commerce to Secretary of State for India soliciting abolition of duties on cotton goods, and yarns imported into India.

    Finance and Commerce, Separate Revenue, Statistics and Commerce 'A', April 1882, Nos. 637-639.

20. Establishment of Post Office Savings Banks in the three Presidencies of Bengal, Bombay and Madras.

    Finance and Commerce, Separate Revenue, Statistics and Commerce 'A', September 1883, Nos. 1096-1138.

21. Exemption from export duty on rice exported from British India to Pondicherry, and Karikal as a measure of flood relief.

    Finance and Commerce, Statistics and Commerce 'A', March 1885, Nos. 43-46.

22. Indian and Russian trade in Central Asia.

    Finance and Commerce, Statistics and Commerce 'A', May 1885, Nos. 142-154.

23. Export duty on Indian rice, and its effects on rice-milling trade of London and Liverpool.

    Finance and Commerce, Statistics and Commerce 'A', April 1888, Nos. 182-193.

24. Import duties in Britain on Indian made silver plate.
    Finance and Commerce, Statistics and Commerce 'A', July 1889, Nos. 368-370.

25. Rejection of an application from Bengal Iron and Steel Company Ltd. claiming exemption from custom duty on all plants and materials imported by them for the erection of their steel works at Barakar (in Bengal).
    Finance and Commerce, Statistics and Commerce 'A', September 1903, Nos. 558-559.

26. Abolition of Military Finance Branch, and creation of an office of Financial Adviser, Military Finance.
    Finance, Salaries and Establishments 'A', November 1913, Nos. 161-166.

27. Appointment of Indians to posts reserved for members of the Indian Civil Service, also for offices of Accountant General.
    Finance, Pay, Allowances and Finance Officers 'A', August 1916, Nos. 83-85.

28. Proposal to make provision in the draft rules under Section 30 (i) (A) of the Government of India Act, 1919, permitting Local Governments to raise loans in London.
    Finance, Accounts and Finance 'C', May 1920, No. 841.

29. Relief from double Income Tax of incomes, taxed both in British India and in an Indian State.
    Finance, Separate Revenue 'A', April 1924, Nos. 1-14.

30. Particulars of holding in Gold Standard Reserves from December 1924 to March 1935.
    Finance, File No. (III)/F, 1935.

31. Defining 'taxes on income' in the Government of India Act, 1935.
    Finance, File No. 9(17)/F, 1936.

32. Auditor General of India made Head of Accounts of the Centre and the Provinces.
    Finance, Reforms, File No. 3(2)/1936.

33. Financial powers of Provincial Governments in regard to grant of special pay to officers of All India Services under Government of India Act, 1935.
    Finance, File No. 16(2)/Ex-I, 1937.

34. Question of a fixed rate of exchange for conversion of Sterling into Rupees dropped.
    Finance, File No. 1(2)/F, 1939.

35. Percentage of silver and alloy in manufacturing coins.

Finance, File No. 2(48)/F, 1940.

36. Views and Comments of various Chambers of Commerce and Provincial Governments on Establishment of International Monetary Fund.

Finance, File No. 2(52)/F, 1944.

37. Danger of inflation in British India.

Finance, File No. 17(127)/F, 1944.

38. Report of the Ports (Technical) Committee regarding need for a deep sea port on the West Coast of India.

Finance, File No. 12(3)/P, 1947.

39. Indian Finance Bill of 1948 sanctioned by Governor General of India.

Finance, File No. 2(82)/B, 1948.

MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

India is essentially an agricultural country and the mainstay of her people is land. Yet, the East India Company, during its administration in India, had concentrated more on maximization of revenue collection (including land revenue) and did very little to improve agriculture of the country. Guided purely by commercial interests in the initial stages, the East India Company promoted cultivation of a few cash crops only and performed some routine agricultural, functions. Administrative matters relating to these functions were dealt in the Public, Revenue and Home Departments respectively, prior to the creation of an independent Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce in June 1871.

This Department took over the work connected with Land Revenue and Settlements, Surveys, Census, Meteorology, Statistics of agriculture and trade, all matters affecting improvement and development of the Agricultural, Mineral and Commercial resources of the country from the Home Department, Government Studs and all matters connected with improvement of breed of horses and cattle from Military Department, Opium, Salt, Customs, Stamps and Excise from Financial Department, and Forests and Fisheries from Public Works Department.[1]

In July 1879 when the Government of India decided to bring reduction in expenditure, its organisational structure was modified. Departments of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, and Home were amalgamated to form Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department, while Commerce was combined with Finance, and was designated as Department of Finance and Commerce. Due to this change Statistics Branch was made a part of the newly created Department of Finance and Commerce, but work connected with Census, Gazetteer, and Weights and Measures, continued to remain with Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

No sooner did the work of reorganization of various departments of the Government of India was over, the Famine Commission of 1879 in its report pleaded for the creation of a separate Department of Agriculture, which would promote planned development of agriculture, initiate programmes for increasing agricultural output, and take preventive measures for recurrence of famine in the country. Consequently, an independent Department of Revenue and Agriculture was established on 6 July 1881 to deal with matters concerning Land Revenue, (including Settlements and *Taccavi* advances) Surveys

1. For Records of Survey of India, see chapter "Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs", *Guide to the Sources of Asian History*, Vol. 3.2.

(including Geological Surveys but excluding Archaeological and Marine Surveys), Agriculture and Horticulture (including Fibres and Silk), Fisheries, Cattle-breeding and Cattle-disease, Minerals, Meteorology and Famine. Statistics Branch was also transferred to this Department from the Finance and Commerce Department, though subjects relating to Census, Gazetteer, and Weights and Measures still remained with the Home Department.

The activities of the Revenue and Agricultural Department expanded gradually. During a period of twenty three years—from 1882 to 1905—many subjects like Industrial Arts, Economic Museums and Agricultural Exhibitions, Archaeology, Patents, and Weights and Measures, were transferred from Home Department to Revenue and Agricultural Department.

On 1 March 1905, consequent to the creation of Commerce and Industry Department, Revenue and Agricultural Department was relieved of all the subjects which were not directly connected with land revenue administration, agriculture and famine relief. The subjects thus transferred to the newly created Department of Commerce and Industry were : Commercial Exhibition, Economic Products, Emigration, Fisheries, Geology and Minerals, Inventions and Designs, Practical Arts and Museums, and Weights and Measures. At this juncture, the subject of Archaeology was also re-transferred to the Home Department.

During the First World War, Delhi War Conference, which was held on 29 April 1918, passed a resolution regarding development of India's resources in food stuffs. Consequently, on 10 May 1918, the Governor-General in Council decided to establish a Central Transport and Food Stuffs Board at Delhi. The main functions of this Board were to suggest measures for more efficient exploitation of India's resources through animal and mechanical transport, and to develop production of food stuffs. This Board, however, functioned for a short period and was wound up in 1919. Meanwhile, government had appointed a Food Stuffs Commissioner to mobilise its post-war efforts in controlling movement of wheat, rice and other food stuffs in the country. He was also required to submit to the Government of India periodical reports about the position of food stuffs and their export.

On 3 August 1921, Emigration, a subject that was being dealt within the Commerce and Industry Department since 1905, was transferred to Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

Under the Government of India Act 1919, most of the subjects dealing with land revenue and agriculture were transferred to the Provincial Governments. But matters relating to Central Research Institutions and those connected with diseases of plants and animals continued to remain under the administrative control of the Central Government. As a result of this change, the Department of Revenue and Agriculture started collecting and collating information relating to rural economy, agriculture, and statistics. Henceforth the Central

Government started taking keen interest in agricultural problems from a scientific and technical angle. However, following recommendations of the Retrenchment Committee, Department of Revenue and Agriculture was merged with the Department of Education and Health, and a new Department entitled Education, Health and Lands was constituted on 16 April 1923. All business connected with administration of Land Revenue, Land Surveys, Civil Veterinary. Agriculture, Famine, Forest, Arboriculture, Botanical Survey of India, Foodstuffs, Cinchona Cultivation and Supply of Quinine etc. formed part of the agricultural functions of the newly constituted Department.

With the growing awareness on the part of the government to promote agriculture, the Royal Commission on Agriculture (Linlithgow Commission) was appointed, and on its recommendations, the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research was established on 23 May 1929. Its aim was to promote, guide and coordinate agricultural (including veterinary) research in India, and to provide research expertise to the provinces. The Council was made an Attached Office under the Education, Health and Lands Department on 15 January 1939.

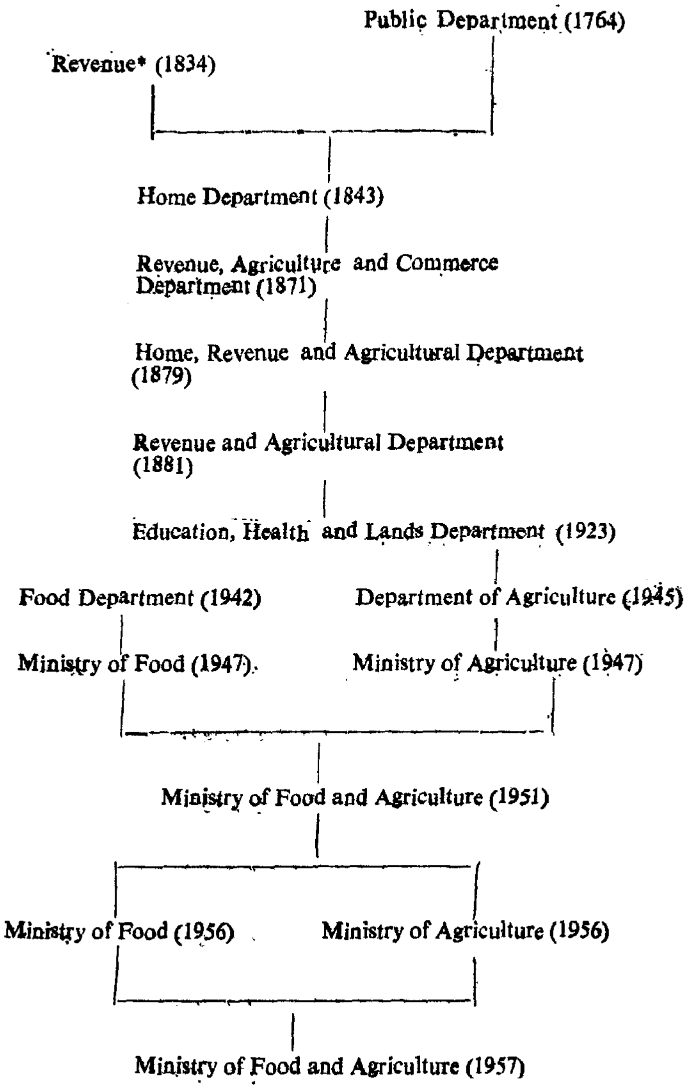
As a result of the Second World War, India faced acute food shortage, which called for immediate remedy. So, to meet this emergent situation caused by the War, Government of India constituted 'Department of Food' in December 1942. This Department took over all questions regarding control of price and movement of food-stuffs, (including sugar and salt but not tea or coffee). Administration of Export Trade Control in respect of food-stuffs was also transferred to this Department. Besides, the work of procurement and purchase of all food requirements of the army became a concern of the Food Department with effect from 1 January 1943.

By 1945, Department of Education, Health and Lands had become too unwieldy to administer suitably three important and busy areas of administration. Consequently, on 1 September 1945 the Department was trifurcated, and a separate Department of Agriculture was constituted. Department of Agriculture was henceforth given the responsibility of dealing with subjects like : Agriculture (including Horticulture), Animal Husbandry (including Veterinary), Fisheries, Forests (including Arboriculture), Central Agencies and Institutions for training and research in Agriculture (including Animal Husbandry), Dairying, Fisheries, Forestry etc., Indian Agricultural Service, Indian Veterinary Service, Indian Forest Service, Indian Forest Educational Service, Grow More Food and Fodder, Land Utilization, Minor and Emergency Irrigation, Agricultural Machinery, Fertilizers and Manures, Control of Pests and Diseases of Plants and Animals, Commodity Committees (except those relating to Tea. Coffee and Rubber), Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, Cases for financing Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, and Commodity Committees, Central Agricultural Market-

ing Department, Agricultural Economics and Statistics, Agricultural Indebtedness and Credit, Cooperative, Famine, Land, Revenue and Land Tenure, Land Acquisition and Land Alienation, Survey of India, Botanical Survey of India, Zoological Survey of India, Pounds and Cattle Trespass, Protection to Wild Animals and Birds, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Procedure in Rent and Revenue Courts, Marine Fishing and Fisheries.

On 29 August 1947, Departments of Food and Agriculture were re-designated as Ministry of Food, and Ministry of Agriculture respectively. The two ministries continued to have their separate existence till February 1951 when, with a view to securing greater administrative effeciency and economy, these were amalgamated into one single Ministry of Food and Agriculture. With the passage of time, function of Ministry of Food and Agriculture expanded considerably. Consequently, it was split up into two separate Ministries, namely Ministry of Food, and Ministry of Agriculture with effect from October 1956. From 17 April 1957, however, the Ministries of Food and Agriculture were once again combined into one Ministry of Food and Agriculture. In 1960, this Ministry was composed of two Departments viz. Department of Food, and Department of Agriculture. Department of Food was then made responsible for Procurement of Foodgrains for Civil and Military Requirements, Distribution of Imported Foodgrains to States, Co-ordination, Planning and Guidance in respect of Food Policy from an All India point of view, and Regulation of Import and Export of Foodgrains. Department of Agriculture, however, looked after Agricultural Production, Agricultural Research, Education and Extension, Animal Husbandry, Fisheries and Forestry, Fruit and Vegetable Products Industry, Agricultural Economics and Statistics, Agricultural Development, Liaison with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, and other International Organisations, Procurement and Distribution of Fertilisers, Agricultural Marketing Co-operation, Land Reclamation, Tubewell and Minor Irrigation, and Soil Conservation.

GROWTH OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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*Revenue records of the Governor-General in Council prior to the enactment of Charter Act of 1833 are with the Government of Bengal. In 1834, however, a distinct Revenue Branch in the Government of India Secretariat came into existence. These Revenue consultations are kept in the National Archives of India along with Home Department records.

RECORDS AVAILABLE IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

A. Revenue, Argiculture and Commerce Department	1871-1879
B. Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department	1879-1881
C. Revenue and Agricultural Department	1881-1923
D. Education, Health and Lands Department	1923-1945
E. Department of Agriculture	1945-1947
F. Ministry of Agriculture	1947-1951
G. Ministry of Food and Agriculture	1951-1956
H. Other Groups	

Separate Annual Indices of all the above Groups except Other Groups are available. Annual Indices of Departments of Public Revenue, Home, Public Works and Military may, however, be consulted for records prior to 1871.

Sl. No.	Description	Inclusive years	Bulk: Bundles	Bulk: Volumes
1	2	3	4 (i)	(ii)
A.	**REVENUE, AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT 1871--1879**			
(a)	*Name of the Branch*			
1.	Agriculture and Horticulture	1871-1879	23	33
2.	Commerce and Trade	1871-1879	8	5
3.	Customs	1871-1879	5	3
4.	Emigration	1871-1879	19	37
5.	Famine	1873-1877	8	33
6.	Fibres and Silk	1871-1879	12	24
7.	Fisheries	1871-1879	2	26
8.	Forests	1871-1879	61	55
9.	General	1871-1879	12	45
10.	Industrial Arts, Museums and Exhibitions	1871-1872	2	—
11.	Industry, Science and Arts	1873-1879	3	—
12.	Meteorology	1871-1879	6	25
13.	Minerals and Geological Survey	1871-1879	3	20
14.	Municipalities	1871-1876	3	1
15.	Revenue	1871-1879	2	5
16.	Salt	1871-1879	9	24
17.	Sanitary	1871-1873	2	7
18.	Statistics	1871-1879	1	—
19.	Studs and Cattle Breeding—Cattle Diseases	1871-1879	5	2
20.	Surveys	1871-1879	24	43
21.	Taccavi	1871-1879	3	2

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
(b) *Despatches*				
1.	To Secretary of State for India	1871-1879	2	27
2.	From Secretary of State for India	1871-1879	2	16
(c) *Miscellaneous*				
1.	Papers relating to Customs	1875-1877	—	1
2.	Proceedings relating to Famine in Bengal and Bihar	1873-1875	—	3

B. HOME, REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT 1879-1881

(Revenue and Agriculture Wing only)

(a) *Name of the Branch*				
1.	Agriculture and Horticulture	1879-1881	7	5
2.	Emigration	1879-1881	7	9
3.	Famine	1880-1881	2	1
4.	Forests	1879-1881	14	15
5.	General	1879-1881	2	5
6.	Meteorology	1879-1881	3	7
7.	Minerals	1879-1881	2	5
8.	Revenue	1879-1881	15	11
9.	Surveys	1879-1881	3	11
(b) *Despatches*				
1.	To Secretary of State for India	1879-1881	1	13
2.	From Secretary of State for India	1879-1881	1	12

C. REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT 1881-1923

(a) *Name of the Branch*				
1.	Agriculture	1881-1923	200	164
2.	Agriculture and Horticulture	1881-1882	3	2
3.	Archaeology/ Archaeology and Epigraphy	1887-1895 / 1895-1905	28	32
4.	Cattle Breeding and Cattle Diseases	1881-1890	6	32
5.	Civil Veterinary Administration	1895-1923	97	89
6.	Commercial Exhibition	1895-1905	7	23
7.	Economic Products	1895-1905	19	30
8.	Emigration	1881-1905, 1921-1923	75 / 9	163 / —

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
9.	Exhibition	1881-1882	2	2
10.	Famine	1881-1923	152	238
11.	Fibres and Silk	1881-1894	14	43
12.	Fisheries	1881-1905	2	70
13.	*Food Stuffs*	*1919-1922*	32	—
14.	Forests	1881-1923	322	255
15.	General	1881-1923	175	151
16.	Geology and Minerals	1895-1905	16	27
17.	Horse Breeding and Agriculture Stock	1890-1894	21	20
18.	Inventions and Designs	1895-1905	10	28
19.	Land Revenue	1895-1923	358	245
20.	Land Surveys	1895-1923	90	59
21.	Meteorology	1881-1923	60	104
22.	Minerals	1881-1895	8	35
23.	Museums and Exhibitions	1882-1894	17	44
24.	Patents	1888-1895	6	26
25.	Practical Arts and Museums	1895-1905	9	20
26.	Revenue	1881-1896	137	143
27.	Statistics*	1881-1898	4	24
28.	Surveys	1881-1895	37	84

(b) *Despatches*

1.	To Secretary of State for India	1881-1921	2	31
2.	From Secretary of State for India	1881-1911	2	16

(c) *Miscellaneous*

1.	Magnetical, Meteorological and Siesmographic observatioos made at the Government Observatories at Bombay and Aligarh	1911-1915	—	1
2.	Papers relating to Legislation for protection of Fresh Water Fisheries	1893	1	—
3.	Report on the Administration of Meteorological Department	1900-1901	—	1
4.	Review of Forest Administration	1908-1909	—	
5.	Statistics of monthly Rainfall in India	1911-1922	—	1

*This branch was amalgamated with Gerenal branch in 1898.

1	2	3	4	
			(i)	(ii)
D. EUDCATION, HEALTH AND LANDS DEPARTMENT 1923-1945				
For details see page 32				
E. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE 1945-1946				
Name of the Branch				
1. Advisers		1946	1	—
2. Agriculture		1945	3	—
3. Co-operative		1946	1	—
4. Crops		1946	2	—
5. Economics and Statistics		1945-1946	1	—
6. Establishment		1946	1	—
7. Fertiliser and Manure		1946	1	—
8. Fisheries		1945-1946	3	—
9. Food Production		1945	1	—
10. Forests		1945-1946	3	—
11. General		1946	1	—
12. Irrigation		1946	1	—
13. Live-Stock		1946	1	—
14. Planning		1945-1946	4	—
15. Plant Protection and Storage		1946	1	—
16. Policy		1946	9	—
17. Progress		1946	1	
18. Revenue		1945-1946	1	—
19. Seeds and Vegetables		1946	1	—
F. MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE 1947-1951				
Name of the Branch				
1. Accounts		1947	1	—
2. Commodities		1947	1	—
3. Compost		1948	1	—
4. Co-operative		1947-1949	1	—
5. Crops		1947-1948	1	—
6. Economics and Statistics		1947-1950	1	—
7. Establishment		1947-1949	1	—
8. Fertilizer and Manure		1947-1948	1	—
9. Fisheries		1947	1	—
10. Forests		1947-1949	1	—
11. Grow More Food		1947-1950	6	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
12.	Irrigation	1947-1950	1	—
13.	Institutes	1947-1948	1	—
14.	Land Reclamation	1949	1	—
15.	Live-Stock	1947-1948	5	—
16.	Plant Protection and Storage	1947-1950	1	—
17.	Policy	1947-1949	11	—
18.	Revenue	1947	1	—
19.	Seeds and Irrigation	1950	1	—
20.	Seeds and Vegetables	1947-1948	1	—
21.	Supply and Co-ordination	1950	1	—
22.	Surveys	1949-1950	2	—
G.	MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE 1951-1956			
	Name of the Branch			
1.	Economics and Statistics	1951-1953	1	—
2.	General (Production)	1952-1957	1	—
3.	Grow More Food	1951-1955	6	—
4.	Irrigation	1951-1955	1	—
5.	Seeds and Irrigation	1951-1955	1	—
6.	Supply and Co-ordination	1951-1953	1	—
7.	Surveys	1951-1952	12	—
H.	OTHER GROUPS			
1.	Central Transport and Food Stuff Board	1918	4	—
2.	Emigrant Registers*	1863-1911	—	224
3.	Famine Commission Note Books	1877-1901	—	110
4.	Government of Bengal Emigration Proceedings	1868-1903	—	20
5.	Imperial/Indian Council of Agricultural Research			
	Name of the Branch			
	Accounts	1944-1945	6	—
	Agriculture	1930-1952	167	—
	Agriculture II	1938-1941	5	—
	Coffee	1937-1938	1	—
	Crop Costings	1937	1	—

*These registers include names of the ships, their destination and list of embarked persons and relate mostly to ships that sailed from Madras to Natal.

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
	Development	1941-1945	9	—
	General	1929-1945	76	—
	Imperial Bureau	1933-1934	1	—
	Lac Cess	1932-1941	22	—
	Library	1933-1945	7	—
	Locust	1930-1940	12	—
	Marketing	1934	1	—
	Oil Seeds	1933-1934	3	—
	Planning	1945	1	—
	Publication	1930-1945	9	—
	Research	1929-1930	3	—
	Statistical	1933-1945	14	—
	Sugar	1939-1941	9	—
	Sugar Institutes	1930-1938	3	—
	Veterinary/Animal Husbandry	1930-1945	131	—
6.	Indian Survey Committee Papers	1905	2	—
7.	Office of the Food Stuffs Commissioner/ Deputy Food Stuffs Commissioner	1919-1921	7	—
8.	Office of the Inspector General of Forests*	1864-1922	140	56

*From 1864-1871, this office was under the administrative control of the Public Works Department.

SOME SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE SERIES

1. Minute of Governor General in Council for Improving the system of Agriculture of India.

   Public, 6 June 1805, No. 2.

2. Discovery of Tea Plant in Upper Assam.

   Revenue, 28 January 1835, No. 6.

3. Measures adopted in Madras and Bengal for improvement in cultivation and cleaning of cotton.

   Revenue, 22 June 1840, Nos. 18–27.

4. Commutation of rent on Government land in Prince of Wales' Island and Province Wellesly.

   Home, Revenue 'A', November 1861, Nos. 3–5.

5. Opinions of Local Governments on proposed alteration in Rules for disposal of Waste Lands.

   Home, Revenue 'A', March 1867, Nos. 19–33.

6. Levy of duty on Sugar and other Saccharine produce passing down the *Chenab* and other rivers, and by rail to Multan.

   Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, Customs, Sea and Inland 'A', November 1871, Nos. 1–3.

7. Sea-fisheries of Burma. Proposed establishment of fish trade between the islands of Indian Archipelago, Moulmein and Mergui.

   Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, Fisheries 'A', July 1873, Nos. 1–4.

8. Memorandum on Forest Legislation for British India.

   Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, Forest 'A', December 1875, Nos. 16–18.

9. Constitution of the Famine Commission, 1878.

   Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce, Famine 'B', May 1878, No. 2.

10. Scheme for Botanical Survey of India.

    Revenue and Agricultural, Agriculture 'A', January 1890, No. 1.

11. Report on Tea Culture in Assam for the year 1889.

    Revenue and Agricultural, Agriculture 'B', June 1890, No. 63.

12. Indigo seed sent for use of Japanese Government.

    Revenue and Agricultural, General 'B', June 1890, Nos. 5–7.

13. Protection of insectivorous birds in interest of Agriculture.

Revenue and Agricultural, Agriculture 'A', July 1890, Nos. 16–19.

14. Proposal for development of pony and mule-breeding operations in India.

Revenue and Agricultural, Horse Breeding and Agricultural Stock 'A', August 1890, Nos. 1-2.

15. Grant of advances to the sufferers in the Chittagong cyclone and storm wave of October 1897.

Revenue and Agriculture, Famine 'A', January 1898, Nos. 5–8.

16. Letters from Romesh Chander Dutt to Lord Curzon on Land Revenue Settlements in British India.

Revenue and Agriculture, Land Revenue 'A', November 1900, Nos. 19–28.

17. Calendar of Land Revenue Settlements in India corrected upto 30 June 1902.

Revenue and Agriculture, Land Revenue 'A', June 1903, Nos. 21-38.

18. Bill to regulate Irrigation, Navigation and Drainage in Burma.

Revenue and Agriculture, Land Revenue 'A', September 1903, Nos. 15-16.

19. Policy of Government with regard to opening of grain shops in times of famine.

Revenue and Agriculture, Famine 'B', January 1915, No. 2.

20. Notes by the Delegates for India and the British Empire, to the International Institute of Agriculture, Rome, on the Institute's utility to the world and to India.

Revenue and Agriculture, Agriculture 'A', November 1915, Nos. 26-27.

21. Allotment of funds for development of Technical and Agricultural Education.

Revenue and Agriculture, Agriculture 'A', May 1918, Nos. 7-8.

22. Constitution of Provincial Boards of Agriculture.

Revenue and Agriculture, Agriculture 'A', June 1919, Nos. 32–36.

23. Note on cultivation and manufacture of cinchona in India.

Education, Health and Lands, Agriculture 'A', December 1927, No. 37.

—510 Archive/87

24. Constitution of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

    Education, Health and Lands, Agriculture 'A', July 1929, Nos. 75–83.

25. Establishment of a branch of Agricultural Meteorology under the Indian Meteorological Department.

    Education, Health and Lands, Agriculture 'A', March 1931, Nos. 1–4.

26. Food Production Drive in Bombay under Grow More Food Campaign.

    Education, Health and Lands, Food Production, File No. 20-16/1943-P.

27. Chemical fertilizers—requirements of India during 1944-45.

    Education, Health and Lands, Food Production, File No. 42–31/1943-P.

28. Schemes for increasing fish production in Sundarban Abad areas in Bengal.

    Education, Health and Lands, Food Production, File No. 8-6/1944-P.

29. Plan for development of Poultry Farming in Delhi.

    Education, Health and Lands, Food Production II, File No. 9-4/1944-P-II.

30. Establishment of a Fertilizer Factory at Sindri in Bihar.

    Education, Health and Lands, Food Production II, File No. 42-35/1945-P-II.

31. Training of candidates in the methods of Fisheries at Nautical School, Grimsby, England.

    Agriculture. Fisheries, File No. 19-1/1947-F-I.

32. Formation of a Standing Expert Committee on seeds.

    Food and Agriculture, Seeds and Irrigation, File No. 3-1/1954-Seeds.

33. Policy regarding fixation of sugar and sugar-cane prices for 1955-1956.

    Food and Agriculture, Sugar, File No. SV-101(1)/1954.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Ministry of Home Affairs had its beginning in the Public Department, which came into existence in January 1764. Prior to it, all matters relating to Shipping, Revenue, Fortifications, Accounts, Appointments, etc. were dealt with by the Board of Council at Fort William in Calcutta. The records series was designated as 'Fort William'. However, as the activities of the East India Company became complex and diversified different departments or branches were created either to afford relief to the Public Department or to put the work on a systematic basis.

Rapid growth in the volume of work in the Public Department, particularly after the grant of Diwani of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa to the East India Company in August 1765, led to the establishment of a special "Comptrolling Committee of Revenue" in March 1771, which was superseded by a Council of Revenue on 13 October 1772. This Council of Revenue was entrusted with both Revenue and Judicial matters, and a separate Revenue and Judicial series commenced from 1772.[1] The Council was designated as "Revenue Department", after the passing of Regulating Act of 1773.

In the wake of re-organisation of the Government Secretariat effected on 25 November 1815, the Revenue and Judicial Department was separated. Financial, Revenue, and Separate Revenue were grouped into one Department called as Territorial Department. In March 1828, business relating to Separate Revenue was, however, transferred from the Territorial to the General Department.[2] As a measure of economy, Revenue and Judicial Departments were once again re-united on 30 April 1830, while Territorial Department was dissolved but it continued to operate till the end of 1830. Revenue and Judicial records of the Government of India actually commence from the time of their constitution in 1834, following separation of the Government of Bengal from the Government of India.[3] In 1843, when general re-organisation of the Secretariat was effected, General Department was designated as Home Department and Revenue and Judicial Branches were incorporated in it.

Military affairs of the East India Company had been entrusted to the Secret Department. But under orders of the Court of Directors, a "Controlling Military Committee" was formed in March 1771 and

1. Revenue and Judicial records prior to November, 1834 are preserved in the State Archives, Government of West Bengal, Calcutta.
2. Nomenclature of the Public Department was re-designated as General Department on 5 June, 1818.
3. Governor General's Original consultations are available from 1831 onwards.

subsequently a Military Board was created in 1776 to control and regulate the affairs concerning military activities. The Board, however, remained as a part of the Public Department and it continued as such till 1786, when it was merged in the newly created Secret and Military Department.

Medical affairs of the Company were initially supervised by the Hospital Board (1786), and then by a Medical Board (1796). But functions of the Medical Board came to an end once a Director General of Medical Department was appointed on 25 January 1858. When Medical Department was re-organised in April 1896, the Officer became the Director General of Indian Medical Service. the Directorate remained under the administrative control of Home Department until 1918, when it was placed under the Education Department.

Although a separate Marine Board was created on 6 April 1795, transactions of the Governor General in Council on marine subjects were recorded in Public consultations. A separate series of Marine Consultations commenced from 2 May 1838. But under the re-organisation that took place in 1843, subjects connected with marine were transferred to Home Department, and they remained with it until these subjects were transferred to the Military Department in 1867.

Commercial Department was created in 1801. But it functioned as a branch of the Public Department. However, when the Company's trade was terminated under the provisions of the Charter Act of 1833, Commercial Department was abolished, and matters concerning commerce, were dealt with in the Home Department until 1871.

Until 1815, when an Ecclesiastical Department as a branch of the Public Department was established, all correspondence relating to this subject was dealt with either in the Public Department or in the Military Department. Matters relating to ecclesiastical affairs continued to be the responsibility of the Public/Home Department till these were transferred to the Education Department on 9 December 1910.

Subjects relating to law had been dealt with in the Public Department under a separate heading, 'Law Consultations'. But in 1835 a separate Legislative Department was created to consider drafts of Acts prepared in various Departments before their enactment. And, this new Department became a branch of the Home Department on 1 May 1843. It remained a subject of this Department until February 1869 when an independent Legislative Department was created.

The General Department was re-designated as the Home Department with effect from 1 May 1843, and subjects like Revenue, Separate Revenue, Police, Judicial, Legislative, Marine, Ecclesiastical, Post Office, Medical, Public Works, Education, and General Affairs

were placed under this Department. Matters concerning Post Office, and Electric Telegraph which were dealt with in the Public Branch, became independent branches in the Home Department in 1855 and 1856 respectively when work connected with these subjects had become heavy. This arrangement continued till 1867, when business connected with Post Office was transferred to Financial Department (Separate Revenue), and Electric Telegraph to Foreign Department.

The Home Department started administering Police and Jails affairs from 1862 following the events of 1857 with a view to ensuring internal peace and containing any similar events within the territories in the British India. These subjects were formerly with the Foreign Department. The Home Department was assigned in 1864 the additional business of editing the *Gazette of India.* It also took over the administration of Police, Judicial, Medical and Ecclesiastical Departments of the assigned districts of Hyderabad, Mysore and that of Coorg in 1866, though the administration of Mysore was reverted to the Foreign Department on 16 December 1867.

Earlier, matters relating to Education were dealt in Public Branch of Home Department. However, Education became a separate branch of the Home Department in 1857, and it functioned in that capacity until a separate Education Department was created in 1910. In February 1896, Linguistic Survey of India had been created in the Home Department to undertake a systematic survey of Indian Languages. This work too was subsequently taken over by the Education Department in February 1911.

Plan submitted by Sir William Hunter to Government of India for the compilation of Gazetteers of India was approved in 1871 and the first edition of the *Imperial Gazetteer* was published in 1881. This subject remained in the Home Department till December 1910 when it was transferred to Education Department.[4]

In order to provide some relief to Home Department, business relating to Income Tax, Licence Tax, Customs Duties, and Stamps was transferred to the Financial Department on 21 March 1861. This arrangement, however, did not prove satisfactory and only a year later Customs Duties and Stamps were re-transferred to the Home Department. However, in October 1863, subjects like Customs, Salt, Opium, Stamps and '*Abkaree*' were transferred from Home to the Financial Department.

With the creation of a new Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce on 6 June 1871, work relating to Agriculture, Forests, Meteorology, Commerce and Trade, Fisheries, Statistics, Gazetteers, Census, Surveys (Revenue, Topographical and Trignometrical), Municipalities, Sanitary, Emigration, etc. was transferred from Home

4. During the period 1871-1872, however, the subject was under the Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce Department.

Department to the newly created Department. But business connected with Sanitary and Municipalities was re-transferred to Home Department on 1 October 1873 and 2 November 1876 respectively.

In 1876, there was a major re-distribution of work among the various Departments of the Government of India. Home Department was henceforth entrusted with all business connected with Law, Justice, Police, Education, Ecclesiastical, Medical Service (civil), etc. Further, in July 1879 the three existing civil administrative Departments, namely (i) Home, (ii) Revenue, Agriculture & Commerce, and (iii) Finance, were reduced to two Departments by amalgamating Revenue and Agriculture with Home, and Commerce with Finance.[5]

Two years later in 1881 Home, Revenue, and Agricultural Department was bifurcated into two separate Departments, viz. (i) Home, and (ii) Revenue and Agricultural Department following recommendation of the Famine Commission which was constituted by the Government in May 1878. The items of work transferred to the Revenue and Agricultural Department were : Land Revenue (including Settlements and *Taccavi* loans), Surveys (excluding Archaeological and Marine surveys), Agriculture and Horticulture (including Fibres and Silks), Fisheries, Cattle-breeding, Cattle-diseases, Mineral Meteorology, and Famine. Rest of the business continued to be dealt within the Home Department.

An Upper Burma Branch was created in the Home Department in 1886 when that territory was annexed to British India. It was, however, abolished in 1888 and the functions were distributed among other departments of Government. In 1888 a Jails Branch was set up to control the prisons. Its functions were subsequently expanded to include the administration of lunatic asylums; matters of mental health, moral and social hygiene and children's court; administration of Andaman and Nicobar Islands; and, cases relating to missions and missionaries and repatriation of Indians from Indo-China and the United States of America. Eventually, however, this Branch was stripped of all the charges except administration of prisons.

During the years that followed, work relating to many subjects were transferred from Home Department to Revenue and Agricultural Department. Those included Industrial Arts, Economic Museums, and Agricultural exhibitions (January 1881), Forests (October 1886), Archaeology and Conservation of Ancient Monuments (April 1887), Patents (June 1888), and Weights and Measures (June 1890). Work relating to Indian Merchandise Marks Act IV of 1889 was transferred from Home to Finance and Commerce Department in August 1890, while Statistics was transferred from Home to Finance, and Commerce Department in August 1896. In November 1901, a

5. For a complete list of items of work allotted to the two Departments please see Appendix V of the *Guide to the Records in the National Archives of India, Part II,* (New Delhi, 1977), p. 237-38.

separate Directorate General of Education was created to advise the Governor General in Council and the Provincial Governments on educational matters.[6]

During the first decade of the twentieth century, two major changes were effected at the Central Secretariat of the Government of India. A new Commerce and Industry Department was created on 1 March 1905, while a separate Education Department was constituted on 9 December 1910. This resulted in the transfer of subjects like Factories, Explosives, and Petroleum from Home to the Commerce and Industry Department, and Education, Local Self-government, Sanitation. Ecclesiastical Affairs, Museums, Examinations, Archaeology, Census, Gazetteers, Record Office, Imperial Library, Books and Publications etc., from Home to the Education Department.[7] Work connected with 'Census' was, however, re-transferred to Home Department in 1923 on the recommendation of the Inchcape Committee.

With a view to deal with the growing political unrest in the country, a separate Political Branch was created in the Home Department in July 1907. Subjects like maintenance of law and order, internal security, preventive measures to suppress political, communal, and anti-Government activities, advising the Provincial Governments about steps to be taken for checking such activities, administering of law relating to the press, books and newspapers, cinematography, control of foreigners in India, and repatriation to India of Indians abroad, came within the purview of this new Branch. However, with the commencement of Second World War, functions of the Political Branch grew enormously. Consequently, on 10 June 1940, it was bifurcated into (i) Political (Internal), and (ii) Political (External). On 24 October 1941, the latter was further sub-divided into Political (External) and Political (External War). These were re-designated as Political (External I) and Political (External II) respectively in June 1947.

Prior to 1919, subject relating to constitutional reforms was dealt within the Home Department. But when an independent Reforms Office was created on 13 December 1919, the subject was transferred to it. However, on the abolition of Reforms Office in April 1921, works which had been under its control were once again taken over by the Home Department. Consequent to the appointment of a Statutory Commission under the chairmanship of Sir John Simon in 1927, a 'Special Branch' was created in the Home Department in July 1927 to attend to the work connected with the Commission. This Branch was wound up towards the middle of 1929 and its work was taken over by the Public Branch. On 15 May 1930 Reforms Office was once again set up to deal with questions relating to the reforms

6. The Post of Director General of Education was abolished with the formation of a new Education Department.

7. The subjects Archaeology and Epigraphy were transferred from the Revenue and Agriculture Department to Home Department on 1 May, 1905.

arising out of the report of the Simon Commission. This office functioned upto March 1940.[8]

Under Government of India Act of 1919, although the responsibility of certain subjects was delegated to the Provinces, a substantial amount of control of Home Department over Provincial Administration in respect of law and order, etc. continued. But after passing of Government of India Act in 1935, Provinces were made responsible for administration of Justice, Public Order, Police, Prisons, etc., and thus the scope of control of Home Department in respect of these subjects was very much reduced. On 9 September 1941, the Judicial Section of the Home Department was abolished and major portion of its work was transferred to the Legislative Department.

Constitutional Reforms introduced by the Government of India Act of 1935 increased the work load in Governor General's Secretariat. Consequently, to cater to the needs of this increased work, a separate section known as Governor General's Section was created on 11 July 1938 in the Home Department. This Section was superseded by an independent Office of Secretary to Governor General (Public) on 21 November 1938. This Office dealt with the following subjects : Appointments of Chief Justice of India and Judges of the Federal Court, Chief Justices and Judges of High Courts, (including the Chief Courts of Oudh and Sind), Chairman, Members and the Secretary of the Federal Public Service Commission, Auditor General, Chief Commissioners, Chairman of the Tribunal to be set up to arbitrate the disputes between the Provinces in respect of road-rail-coordination, Governor's privileges, allowances, and grant of leave, Individual cases of Officers of the Secretary of State's Service serving in Provinces in respect of discipline, pay, passage, pension, seniority, lien etc., Arbitration in disputes over certain matters between the Centre and the Provinces, and Petitions for mercy from the prisoners condemned to death in British India. On 15 August 1947, this office was abolished and its functions were transferred to the Home Department.

Conclusion of World War II in 1945 led to some adjustment in the allocation of business in August 1946. While five subjects, viz.; Conventions with other countries in judicial matters, Extradition of criminals and accused persons from British India to Indian States, Criminal law and Criminal Procedure, Suits and Prosecution of Government servants in certain States, and Constitution and organisation, jurisdiction and power of Courts (except the Federal Court), were transferred from the Legislative Department to Home Department. However, fifteen subjects were taken out of the Home Department and assigned to different Departments. i.e. Procedure in Rent and Revenue Courts, Puonds and Preservation of cattle trespass, Protection of wild animals and birds, and Prevention of cruelty to animals to the Department of Agriculture; Matters connected with Asso-

8. Records of the Reforms Office are kept separately as a distinct series in the National Archives of India. For details, see chapter "Ministry of Law", *Guide to the Sources of Asian History, Vol.* 3.2.

ciation of Moral and Social Hygiene in India (including Children's Court and Victoria Memorial Hall, Calcutta) to the Department of Education; Money lending to Finance Department; Registration of Births and Deaths, Lunacy and Mental deficiency, and Ranchi European Mental Hospital to the Department of Health; and Law relating to Charitable and Religious Endowments, Civil Law and and Civil Procedure, Marriage and Divorce, Bankruptcy and Insolvency, and Registration of Deeds and Documents to the Legislative Department.

With effect from 29 August 1947, Home Department came to be known as Ministry of Home Affairs. Soon after independence the Ministry of Home Affairs was dealing with the following main heads of work : (i) Central Intelligence Bureau, General questions (other than those which have a financial bearing) relating to All India and Central Services, Selection Board and Establishment Officer to the Government of India, All matters relating to Indian Administrative and Police Services, Questions (other than those which have a financial bearing) relating to conditions of service of ministerial and inferior staff of the Government of India Secretariat and attached and subordinate offices, and recruitment of ministerial staff of the Government of India Secretariat and attached offices, Appointment of non-Indians to civil posts under the Government of India, Communal representation in the services under the Government of India, General questions relating to verification of character and antecedents of candidates for Government Service, Staff of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Census, Arms, firearms and ammunition, Extention of powers and jurisdiction of members of a police force to an area outside the Province, the Delhi Special Police Establishment, State Lotteries, Immigration from Foreign and Commonwealth countries, except the countries to which the Reciprocity Act applies, Entry of persons, other than returning emigrants, from Commonwealth countries except those to which the Reciprocity Act applies, Grant of visas and endorsements for entry into India, and the control of foreigners in India, Deportation of Nationals of Foreign States from India, Naturalization, European vagrants inside India, Prevention of the bringing into Dominion of India of undesirable literature under Section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, War service concessions regarding civil services, Key Leave Scheme, Recruitment to vacancies in civil services reserved for 'War Service' candidates, Allocation of Priorities for sea passages ex-India to the United Kingdom, Civil Defence including Air raid precautions, United Nations Organisation—Human Rights, Rights of Women, Genocide Reports etc. of various committees appointed to consider proposals on social, economic, political, judicial and other matters, International Conventions, Extradition of criminals and accused persons from Dominion of India to Indian States, Constitution and organisation, jurisdiction and powers of all courts except the Federal Court in respect of matters in this list, Federal Public Service Commission, Warrant of Precedence, Arbitration in disputes over certain matters between the Government of India and the Provinces, Partition Council and its decisions, Transfer Bureau, Resettlement of retrenched temporary employees, Resettlement of Indian employees

of Government of Burma, Issue of declarations of eligibility for admission to service of candidates from Pakistan and Indian States; (ii) Legislation in respect of : Removal of prisoners and accused persons from one Province to another, Newspapers, books and printing presses, including the administration of the Press and Registration Act, 1867, the Press (Emergency Powers) Act, 1931, Sections 99 A to 99 G, Criminal Procedure Code, Prisons, Criminal Tribes, Persons subjected to preventive detention under Central authority, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Constitution and organization, jurisdiction and powers of all Courts except the Federal Court with respect of matters in this list, Provincial Bills, Regulations and Ordinances, Extension of Central Acts and Ordinances to the Excluded Areas; (iii) Matters relating to Chief Commissioners' Provinces of Coorg, Delhi, Ajmer-Merwara and Panth Piploda, Andaman and Nicobar Islands except Forest and Education, Appointment of Governor-General's Council of Ministers, Ministers of State and Deputy Ministers, Chief Justices and Judges of High Courts, the Chief Justice of India and Judges of the Federal Court, Amendment or interpretation of the Government of India (High Court Judges, Federal Court and Governors' Allowances and Privileges) orders and sanctions thereunder, Grant of leave to the Governor-General and Governors, Appointment of Chief Commissioners and of the administrative and judicial officers in the Chief Commissioner's Provinces, Petitions for mercy from condemned prisoners, Gazetted Status, Royal Human Society Awards, Holidays for the Central Secretariat, Rules of Business and Secretariat Instructions, Flags and National Anthem, Entertainment Fund, Recommendations for the Kings' Police and Fire Service Medal and Indian Police Medal, Coat of arms, Privilege Ticket Order concession for civil employees and Secretariat Security Scheme.

After the integration of Indian Princely States with the Union of India, the Ministry of States, which was dealing with matters relating to Indian States was merged with the Ministry of Home Affairs with effect from 10 January 1955.[9] At this stage Ministry of Home Affairs took over functions connected with administrative, financial and economic problems of Hyderabad, Jammu & Kashmir, Madhya Bharat, Mysore, Patiala and East Punjab States Union, Rajasthan, Saurashtra, Travancore-Cochin; matters relating to Bhopal, Himachal Pradesh, Vindhya Pradesh, Kutch, Manipur and Tripura; and matters arising out of the instruments of merger and covenants entered into between the Government of India and rulers of former Princely States, which included, among other things, privy purses and the settlement of private properties of the rulers. Another major re-allocation of business took place on 13 March 1957 when Ministry of Home Affairs received as many as 103 subjects, which could be broadly classified into four major groups namely, (i) Public Services, (ii) Public security, (iii) Judicial matters, and (iv) Miscellanenous. Matters concerning All India and Central Service came within the first group; administration of law and order in the centrally administered areas was dealt within the second group; appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and

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9. For details of records of the Ministry of States, see chapter "Ministry of External Affairs", *Guide to the Sources of Asian History*, Vol. 3.2.

High Courts, their pension, and petition from condemned prisoners were the broad subjects under group three; and subjects of group four concerned administration of Ajmer, Delhi, Coorg, and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, allowances of President, Governors, and Ministers, Census etc.[10]

10. For functions allotted to Ministry of Home Affairs see Appendix XV of the *Guide to the Records in the National Archives of India*, Part II, (New Delhi, 1977) pp. 265—271.

GROWTH OF THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Council at Fort William (1748)*

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Public Department (1764)

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General Department (1818)

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Home Department (1843)

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Home, Revenue and Agriculture Department (1879)

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Home Department (1881)

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Ministry of Home Affairs (1947)

*National Archives of India has in its custody records in regular series from 1748.

RECORDS AVAILABLE IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

A. Council at Fort William	1748-1763
B. Public/General/Home Department*	1764-1946
C. Ministry of Home Affairs	1947-1957
D. Other Groups	

Separate Annual/consolidated Indices of all the above Groups except Other Groups are available.

Sl. No.	Description	Inclusive years	Bulk: Bundles	Bulk: Volumes
1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
A.	**COUNCIL AT FORT WILLIAM 1748-1763**			
	Consultations	1748-1763	2	22
	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors	1748-1763	—	10
	From Court of Directors	1755-1763	—	5
B.	**PUBLIC/GENERAL/HOME DEPARTMENT 1764-1946**			
I.	**Pre-1860 Records**			
	Name of the Branch			
	1. Ecclesiastical			
	Body Sheets	1842-1857	—	10
	Consultations	1815-1859	65	4 5
	Consultations, Governor Generals	1848-1851, 1858	3	—
	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1820-1859	2	21
	From Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1824-1859	2	5
	To Secretary, India House	1857-1858	—	1
	2. Education			
	Body Sheets	1857	1	1
	Consultations	1854-1859	5	1
	Consultations, Governor Generals	1858	1	—
	Despatches :			
	To Court of Director/Secretary of State for India	1856-1859	1	8
	From Secretary of State for India	1859	1	—

*From July 1879 to June 1881, the Department was designated as Home, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
3.	Electric Telegraph			
	Body Sheets	1857	1	—
	Consultations	1857-1859	8	2
	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1856-1859	—	9
	From Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1856-1859	—	5
4.	Judicial			
	Body Sheets	1834-1856	—	*22
	Consultations	1834-1859	111	88
	Consultations, Governor General's . .	1831-1859	20	—
	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1834-1859	2	40
	From Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1835-1859	3	19
	To Secretary, India House	1837-1859	1	4
5. (a)	Law			
	Consultations	1777-1835	67	26
	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors	1796-1831	—	3
	From Court of Directors	1795-1832	—	2
(b)	Legislative			
	Body Sheets	1835-1854	10	19
	Consultations	1835-1854	147	111
	Consultations, Governor General's . .	1838-1840	5	—
	Consultations, Governor General's up Country	1838-1855	37	—
	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors	1835-1854	1	30
	From Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1835-1859	1	33
6.	Medical Board			
	Consultations	1786-1859	174	343
	Miscellaneous	1822-1859	—	55
7.	Post Office			
	Consultations	1855-1859	7	2

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors	1856-1857	—	3
8.	Public			
	Body Sheets	1764-1857	30	93
	Consultations	1764-1859	848	646
	Consultations, Governor Generals	1837-1855 1858-1859	20	—
	Despatches			
	To Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1764-1859	2	142
	From Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1764-1859	9	130
	To Secretary, India House From Secretary, India House	1800-1859 1843-1844 1855-1858	1 4	10 —
9.	Public Works			
	Body Sheets	1852-1854	2	—
	Consultations	1850-1854	40	—
	Despatches :			
	From Court of Directors	1849-1854	1	—
10.	Railways			
	Body Sheets	1854	1	—
	Consultations	1850-1854	27	—
	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors	1850-1854	—	3
	From Court of Directors	1852-1854	—	2
11.	Revenue			
	Consultations	1830-1859	140	82
	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1834-1859	1	20
	From Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1835-1859	2	16
	To Secretary, India House	1838-1851	—	1

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
II. Post-1859 Records				
(a) *Name of the Branch*				
	Andaman	1946	7	—
	Archaeology and Conservation of Ancient Monuments	1881-1887	10	20
	Archaeology and Epigraphy*	1905-1910	10	23
	Books and Publications	1886-1910	42	77
	Census	1880-1923	21	33
	Delhi	1911-1913	5	—
	Ecclesiastical	1860-1910	46	—
	Education	1860-1910	136	305
	Electric Telegraph	1860-1867	5	1
	Establishment	1874-1946	511	264
	Establishment (Special)	1934-1946	76	—
	Establishment (Reorganisation)	1945-1946	11	—
	Examination	1874-1910	30	67
	Geological	1869-1871	3	12
	Jails	1888-1946	203	156
	Judicial	1860-1941	852	—
	Legislative	1861-1869	12	42
	Local Boards	1889-1910	13	49
	Lunatic Asylum	1921	4	1
	Manpower	1939-1945	4	—
	Medical	1873-1910	198	161
	Miscellaneous	1921	2	2
	Municipalities	1877-1910	85	95
	Patents	1873-1888	1	27
	Police	1862-1946	498	390
	Political (External)	1941-1946	14	—
	Political (External War)	1939-1941	42	—
	Political/Political (Internal)	1907-1946	598	167
	Port Blair	1871-1921	74	165
	Priority Passages (Civil)	1944-1946	7	—
	Public	1860-1946	945	684
	Public (C)	1943-1945	8	—
	Revenue	1860-1871	19	65
	Salt	1869-1871	3	14
	Sanitary	1868-1871	72	18
		1873-1910	160	271

*Records on the subject for the period from April 1887 to April 1905 are available in the Department of Revenue and Agriculture.

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
	Special	1927-1930	14	—
	Special Police Establishment . .	1946-	1	—
	Upper Burma	1886-1888	20	17
	War	1918-1920	19	5
(b) *Despatches*				
	To Secretary of State for India . .	1860-1908	24	71
	From Secretary of State for India .	1860-1927	13	53
C. MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS 1947-1957				
Name of the Branch				
	Accounts	1954-1955	1	—
	Accounts-I	1954	1	—
	Accounts-II	1955	1	—
	Accounts & General	1947	8	—
	Administration	1948-1950, 1953-1954	44	—
	Administration-I	1955	1	—
	Administration-II	1954-1955	2	—
	All India Services	1950	12	—
	All India Services-I	1951-1954	9	—
	All India Services-II	1951-1954	8	—
	Andaman	1947-1955	54	—
	Appointments	1947-1949	24	—
	Appointments (Special) . . .	1947-1949	6	—
	Central Services	1949-1952	11	—
	Civil Defence	1954	1	—
	Civil Defence -I	1955	1	—
	Civil Defence-II.	1955	1	—
	Economics	1955	2	—
	Establishment	1947-1954	37	—
	Establishment (Special) . . .	1947	8	—
	Establishment (Reorganisation) . .	1947	13	—
	Foreigners-I	1947-1954	31	—
	Foreigners-II	1949-1954	4	—
	Foreigners-III	1952-1955	1	—
	Foreigners-IV	1955	1	—
	Foreigners V	1955	1	—
	Gazetted Service (All India Services) .	1948-1949	12	—
	Hindi	1955	1	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
	Jails	1947	1	—
	Judicial-II	1955	4	—
	Kashmir	1954-1955	1	—
	Priority, Passage (Civil)	1947-1951	7	—
	Police/Police-I	1947-1955	19	—
	Police-II/Special Police Establishment	1947-1955	32	—
	Police-III	1954-1955	1	—
	Police-IV	1950-1955	3	—
	Political-III	1955	5	—
	Political (External)/Political (External-I)	1947-1948	14	—
	Political (Internal)	1947	3	—
	Public	1947-1953	65	—
	Public-I	1954	3	—
	Public-III	1955	1	—
	Public-IV	1954-1955	1	—
	Organisation and Method	1954-1955	1	—
	Recruitment, Promotion & Seniority	1951-1954	1	—
	Re-employment & Reconstruction	1947	2	—
	Registrar General	1950	1	—
	Reorganisation	1948-1954	13	—
	Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes	1951-1955	1	—
	Secretariat Security Organisation	1951-1955	1	—
	States Finance	1955-1957	15	—
	States Reorganisation	1955	1	—

D. OTHER GROUPS

I.	Bills from various States Assented to by the President of India	1952-1960	20	—
II.	Central Publicity Board	1918-1919	4	—
III.	Director General of Education	1903-1910	1	—
IV.	Imperial Gazetteer of India	1902-1907	4	—
V.	Indian Law Commission	1837-1838	—	1
VI.	Linguistic Survey of India	1896-1903	13	—
VII.	Legislative Council Proceedings	1854-1869	4	33
VIII.	New South Wales Votes on Legislative Council Proceedings	1852-1858	—	20
IX.	Office of the Internees Information Bureau	1943-1947	1	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
X.	Office of the Royal Commission on the Superior Civil Services	1924	2	—
XI.	Office of the Secretary to the Executive Council of the Governor General .	1935-1945	20	—
XII.	Office of the Secretary to the Governor General (Public)*	1937-1947	86	—
XIII.	Office of the Supervisor of I.C.S. Probationers	1940-1943	3	—
XIV.	Papers relating to Acts	1819-1869	3	516
XV.	Press Laws Enquiry Committees . .	1947-1948	1	—
XVI.	Special Reqruitment Board . .	1948-1951	4	—
XVII.	Thagi and Dakaiti Department** .	1829-1902	8	2
XVIII.	Home Miscellaneous			
	Pre-1860 Records			
	(a) Consultations :			
	1. Commercial	1790-1803	1	—
	2. Fort Marlborough	1790-1794, 1820	1	—
	3. Straits Settlements	1786-1795	1	—
	(b) Volumes***			
	1. General Letters from Court of Directors to Bengal and Fort St. George	1680-1681	—	1
	2. General Letters from Hooghly Factory (Bengal) to the Subordinate Factories	1680-1681	—	1
3-14.	General Letters from Bengal to Court of Directors and Letters from other persons.	1703-1748	—	12
15.	D. Hallyburton's Journal of the capture of Madras and J. Willson's Journal of the siege of Arcot and capture of Conjeeveram.	1746-1751	—	1
16-30.	General letters from Bengal to Court of Directors and from Court of Directors to Bengal, and other Public Department consultations	1749-1764	—	16

*Index available.

**These records belonged to General Branch of the Thagi and Dakaiti Department, which was abolished in 1904. Originally they were within the administrative control of the Foreign Department. They were received from the Central Intelligence Department, Shimla in 1918, but they now form a part of the records of the Home Department.

For additional information see chapter "Ministry of External Affairs", *Guide to the Sources of Asian History*, 3.2.

***Item number of the Volume corresponds to Callnumber.

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
31-55*.	General Letters and Public Department Proceedings from Bengal to Court of Directors, General Letters from Court of Directors to Bengal and Correspondence of Bengal Select Committee with Secret Committee of Court of Directors . .	1765-1799	—	25
60-62**.	Narratives of the Affairs of War in the Carnatic	1751-1758	—	3
63.	Letters (Extracts) from Robert Orme to Robert Clive relating to certain monetary transactions, cases of death among the Company's civil servants, necessity of defeating the Nawab of Bengal and Makcet's proposal to send greyhounds to England and W. Tooke's account (extracts) of the capture of Calcutta . .	1752-1756	—	1
64.	Captain J. Dalton's Journal (extracts) of war of Coromandel and Correspondence of Clive	1751-1753 1762-1764	—	1
65.	Narratives of negotiation in London regarding differences between the English and the French East India Companies on Coromandel coast	1753	—	1
66-67.	Papers relating to capture of Calcutta and the 'Black Hole' incident (1756), and some miscellaneous correspondence (1761-1762) regarding the loss of the ship (*Fattasalam*) bound from Madras to Bengal with some French troops commanded by Col. Coote and Martin	1756 1761-1762	— —	2
67A.	Papers relating to Patna Massacre, Grant of Diwani to East India Company, etc .	1763-1773	—	1
68.	Bengal Board Consultations (Correspondence with other Presidencies) . .	1767	—	1
69-84.	Public List of Packets from Court of Directors to Bengal	1772-1858	—	16
85-86.	Public General Letters from Court of Directors to Bengal, Bombay, Madras Basra, Fort Marlborough, China, etc. .	1775-1778	—	2
87.	Public, Financial, General Letters from Court of Directors to Bengal, Madras and Bombay	1787	—	1
88.	Cypher Code Book	1777	—	1
89-92.	Oaths of allegiance taken by the Governors General, Members of the Council, Justices of the peace, and other officials .	1774-1873	—	4

* No. 44 is not available.

** No. 56-59 were not allocated to any volume.

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
93.	Proceedings of a General Court Martial held at Bombay for the trial of Cap. Francis Mc Keney and Lt. Edward Nugent	1779	—	1
94*.	Political Letters of James Browne regarding Native Princes to Warren Hastings	1782-1785		1
95-95A.	Public General Letters (extracts) from Court of Directors, and Public Department Consultations, relating to appointments, resignations, tours, deaths etc. of Governors-General, Deputy Governors, Members of Council, etc.	1786-1859	—	2
96.	General Letters from Fort Malrborough to Court of Directors	1787-1879	—	1
97-115**	Diary of Proceedings of the Governor-in-council at Fort Marlborough (with Index)	1787-1799	—	19
116.	Public, General and Home Departments Office Order Book regarding office routine, attendence, appointments, promotions, etc.	1787-1843	—	1
117-192.	Miscellaneous Orders and Advertisements issued from Public, General, and Home Departments	1787-1859	—	30
193.	Proceedings of the Commissioners appointed to adjust the rice contract with G. Tyler, contractor for transporting rice to Madras	1788	—	1
194-196.	Public Department separate proceedings on contingent bills, and order book .	1788-1802 1841	—	7
197.	Regulations of Court of Directors regarding stowage of ships and exportation of private trade goods to India .	1790-1793	—	1
198.	Customs Proceedings (Revenue Department)	1790-1791	—	1
199-201.	Public Department Separate Proceedings (abstracts) regarding Prince of Wales Island	1791-1795	—	4
202.	Not available	—	—	—
203***.	Salt Proceedings (Revenue Department) .	1792	—	1
204-204A.	Marine Committee Proceedings and Resolutions	1792-1795	—	2
205-208.	Madras Country Correspondence with Native Chiefs	1792-1802	—	4

*Kept with the Foreign Miscellaneous records (S. No. 41)

**S. No. 101 is not available.

***Kept with the records of Separate Revenue Branch.

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
209.	Commercial General Letters from Bengal to Court of Directors . .	1793-1795	—	1
210.	Ceded Provinces: General Letters from Bengal to Court of Directors . .	1803-1805		1
211.	Separate General Letters from Bengal to Court of Directors	1805-1807	—	1
212.	Not available	—	—	—
213.	Public epartment Proceedings regarding Fort Marlborough . . .	1795	—	1
214.	Rules of Business in the Public Department	1796	—	1
215.	Fort Victoria (Amboyna) Military Correspondence	1797-1800	—	1
216.	Proceedings of the Board appointed to enquire into the Mutiny of the Corps of Artillery at St Thomas Mount, Madras	1798	—	1
217.	Madras Government Miscellaneous Correspondence Book . . .	1798-1799	—	1
218.	Miscellaneous Correspondence of Lord William Bentinck, Governor of Madras	1803-1805		1
219-220.	General Letters (Commercial) from Court of Directors to Bengal . .	1798-1825	—	2
221.	General Letters (Public and Ceded Provinces) from Court of Directors to Bengal	1806	—	1
222.	General Letters (Separate) from Court of Directors to Bengal . . .	1808-1811	—	1
223.	General Orders of the Government of Madras on Military Affairs . .	1799	—	1
224-249.	Proceedings of the Commissioner (afterwards Resident) at Fort Marlborough	1800-1818	—	26
250-254.	List of Bengal Passengers to Europe .	1800-1829	—	5
255-260.	Miscellaneous Letters from Public Department to Prince of Wales Island, Singapore, and Malacca . . .	1800-1836	—	3
261-265.	Miscellaneous Letters from Public Department to Madras . . .	1800-1843	—	
266-267.	Miscellaneous Letters from Public Department to the Resident at Fort Marlborough	1800-1825	—	3
268.	Miscellaneous Letters from Public Department to St. Helena . . .	1800-1823	—	1
269.	Miscellaneous Letters from Public Department to Company's Agent at Cape of Good Hope . .	1800-1830	—	1

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
270.	Miscellaneous Letters from Public Department to Government of Ceylon	1800-1835	—	1
271-275.	Miscellaneous Letters from Public Department to Bombay . . .	1800-1839	—	1 5
276.	Miscellaneous Letters from Public Department to Government of Cape of Good Hope	1800-1841	—	1
277.	Judicial Regulations of the Ceded Provinces	1802	—	1
278.	List of papers submitted before the Board in public Department . .	1802	—	1
279.	i. List of Packets from Bengal to Court of Directors, Bombay and Madras	1804-1814	—	1
	ii. Letters from different persons to Collectors of Chandernagore, Chinsura and Serampore . .	1804-1817	—	1
280.	Marine Letters from Public Department to Indian Naval Commander-in-Chief .	1805-1840	—	1
281-289.	Bengal Civil List	1805-1859	—	10
290-291.	Correspondence of Government of Fort St. George regarding Mutiny at Vellore. Volumes III and VI (with a List of contents in each volumes) . . .	1806	—	2
292.	Minutes of Lord William Bentinck Governor of Madras, in Military Department	1821	—	1
293.	Correspondence between the Madras Native Poor Fund Committee and Government of Fort St. George for the relief of the poor	1807	—	1
294-294A.	Commercial List of packets from Court of Directors to Bengal, with enclosures	1807-1810	—	2
295.	Commercial General Letters (Abstracts) from Court of Directors to Bengal .	1807-1818	—	1
296.	Commercial General Letters (Abstracts) from Bengal to Court of Directors .	1807-1818	—	1
297.	Letters from Public Department to Commissioner at Serampore . .	1808	—	1
298-314.	Proceedings of Board of Trade relating to Fort Marlborough . .	1809-1826	—	17
315-317.	Index to Proceedings of Board of Trade relating to Fort Marlborough . .	1810-1825	—	3

1	2	3	4 (ii)	4 (i)
318—320.	Letters from Court of Directors to Fort Marlborough	1810-1820	—	3
321.	Letters from Public Department to Amboyna, and Java . . .	1810-1817	—	1
322.	Letters from Public Department to Government of New South Wales .	1810-1842	—	1
323.	Orders of Governor-General of India on the Constitution of Government of Java, and Letters from that Government .	1811	—	1
324-344.	List of Papers laid before the Board in Commercial, Law, Ecclesiastical, and Foreign Departments (Abstracts of Proceedings)	1811-1834	—	21
345.	Letters from Java to Prize Agents for the capture of Java	1811-1814	—	1
346-349.	Letters from Government of Java to Bengal	1811-1816	—	4
350.	Letters from Java to Madras, Bombay and Mauritius	1811-1817	—	1
351-382.	Miscellaneous Correspondence of Java Government	1811-1817	—	33
383-391.	General Letters from Court of Directors to Prince of Wales Island . . .	1811-1829	—	9
392-393.	Public Department Correspondence with Mauritius	1811-1813	—	2
394.	Java Government Correspondence with Court of Directors	1812-1817	—	1
395-408.	Java Government Proceedings (Secret, Military, Public, Miscellaneous, etc.) .	1812-1816	—	14
409-409A.	Madras Civil List (with Index) . .	1812-1813, 1861	—	3
410.	List of Europeans reporting their arrival at, and departure from Batavia . .	1813-1816	—	1
411-414.	General Letters from Prince of Wales Island (Fort Cornwallis) to Court of Directors	1813-1825	—	4
415-417.	Correspondence of Government of Fort St. George relating to combination of Executive and Judicial Functions in Madras	1814-1839	—	3

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
418-420.	Register of Treasury Orders issued from Public Department	1815-1824	—	3
423-425.	List of persons embarked for the East Indies	1818-1822	—	4
426.	Enclosures to General Letters from Court of Directors on Commissions and Covenants, etc.	1830-1831	—	1
428-429*	Commercial, General and Ecclesiastical Letters from Bengal to Court of Directors	1819-1828	—	2
432.*	Minutes, Circulars and Proceedings of Records Committee for compiling registers of Landed Property of Bengal	1820-1823	—	1
433.	Budget Estimates of the Government of Bengal, Bombay and Madras .	1820-1826	—	1
433-435.	Receipts for Treasury Orders . .	1803-1824	—	3
436.	Register of Ships built in India for service in the East Indies and copies of licences issued to ships sailed for Europe	1823-1841	—	1
437.	Papers relating to coinage at Indian Mints	1824	—	1
437A.	Report of Mineralogical Survey of Himalaya Mountains by J.D Herbert and J. Manson	1826	—	1
439**.	List of Financial, Customs, and Miscellaneous Revenue Despatches from Territorial, and Financial Departments to Court of Directors . . .	1828-1831	—	2
440.	General Department (Bengal) Commercial and other Correspondence with Officers of the East India Company at Canton	1828-1843	—	1
441-462.	List of Packets from Bengal (General, Public, Home, Marine, Ecclesiastical, Post Office, Electric Telegraph, Education, Judicial, Revenue, Separate Revenue, Statistical, Financial) to Court of Directors/Secretary of State fo India	1828-1859	—	26

*No. 421 was transferred to the then Government of Bengal, No. 423 is not available and Nos. 422, 427, 430, and 431 were shifted to, and kept with Separate Revenue records.

**No. 438 was shifted to, and kept with Separate Revenue records.

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
463-470.	Extracts from Proceedings of Board of Revenue, Madras	1830-1852	—	9
470A-472	Annual Reports of General Committee of Public Instruction, Bengal . .	1831-1833	—	3
473.	Index to General Letters from Court of Directors to Bengal, Bombay and Madras,	1833-1848	—	1
474.	Bombay Customs Committee Proceedings (relating to appointment of Bombay Customs Committee), with Draft Customs Regulations	1834	—	1
475.	Index to Governor General's Proceedings at Bangalore, Madras and Ootacamund in General, Commercial, Ecclesiasticals and Foreign Departments . . .	1834	—	1
476.	Governor-General's Proceedings at Bangalore, Madras and Ootacamund in Judicial (Civil) Department, with Index . .	1834	—	1
477.	Governor-General's Proceedings at Bangalore and Madras in Judicial (Criminal) Department, with Index . . .	1834	—	1
478-482.	Draft Order Books of Legislative, Revenue, and Judicial Departments .	1835-1840	—	5
483-485.	Proceedings of the Committee for revision of Customs Department, and Post Offices in India . . .	1835-1838	—	3
486-508.	Agra and North-Western Provinces Judicial Department Despatches to Court of Directors containing narrative of the Proceedings of Governor-General	1835-1862	—	23
509-510.	Index to Legislative, Revenue, and Judicial, Letters to Court of Directors .	1836-1837	—	2
511.	Letters from General Department to Prince of Wales Island, Singapore, and Malacca	1836-1842	—	1
512.	Rules and Orders of the Supreme Court, Calcutta	1837	—	1
513-516.	Index to General Letters from Court of Directors to Bengal, Bombay and Fort St. Geogre	1837-1843	—	4
517.	List of Public Despatches from Court of Directors to Government of India .	1858	—	1

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
518.	Letters from General Department to Government of Ceylon . . .	1838-1843	—	1
519.	Correspondence Between Commissioner in the Tenasserim Province, and General Committee of Public Instruction, Bengal regarding Moulmein school .	1835-1839	—	1
520.	Proceedings of the Indian Law Commission	1844-1847	—	1
521.	List of Marine, Ecclesiastical, and Separate Revenue Despatches from Court of Directors	1844-1858	—	1
522-523.	Not available	—	—	—
524.	List of Revenue General Letters from Court of Directors to Madras . .	1846-1858	—	1
525-541.	Proceedings (Abstracts) of Government of Straits Settlements (Malacca, Singapore, Penang, etc.) . . .	1851-1859	—	17
542.	Letters from Government of Mauritius to Duke of New Castle regarding Indian immigration into Mauritius .	1853	—	1
543-544.	List of Public, Ecclesiastical, Marine, and Separate Revenue Despatches to Court of Directors	1853-1856	—	2
545.	Register of Petitions received in the various Departments of Government of India, with short abstracts . .	1854-1856	—	1
546.	Proceedings of the Patriotic Fund Committee, Fort William, Calcuttas, for the relief and assistance of widows of soldiers, and sailors . . .	1854-1856	—	1
547.	Governor-General's Ootacamund Proceedings	1855	—	1
548.	Register of Articles collected in the Punjab, and contributed to the Paris Exhibition	1855	—	1
549.	Proceedings of the Medical Board regarding Military Officers wounded during '1857'	1857-1858	—	1
550.	Narratives of the General Department (Education) Proceedings of the North-Western Provinces	1857-1858	—	1
551.	Office Memoranda of the Medical Board, and Director General of the Medical Department . . .	1857-1859	—	1

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
552.	Home Department Receipt Register .	1858	—	1
553.	Central Provinces, and North-Western Provinces General Department Abstract of Proceedings	1858	—	1
554.	North-Western Provinces Judicial (Civil) Abstract of Proceedings . .	1858	—	1
555-556.	North-Western Provinces Judicial (Criminal) Proceedings (Abstracts) .	1858	—	2
557.	Diary of Letters received in the Home Department	1858-1859	—	1
559*-577.	Fort William College Proceedings .	1801-1854	—	19
578-579.	Miscellaneous Note Books (Standing Order of the Council for conducting business of the Board) . . .	1772-1784	—	2
580-581.	Andaman Papers	1858-1859	—	2
582.	Statement of Expenditure on General Establishment of the East India Company	1829	—	1
583.	Statement of Allowances and Establishments in the East India Company's Civil Service under the Presidency of Bombay and its subordinates, as it stood on 1 May, 1854 (with index) . . .	1854	—	1
584.	Proceedings of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council	1854	—	1
585.	Petitions Diary Books . . .	1857-1859	—	1
II. Post-1860 Records				
1.	Despatches to Under Secretary of State for India	1863-1864	—	1
2.	Bengal Government Miscellaneous Proceedings	1860-1863	—	1
3.	Bengal Education Despatches to Secretary of State for India . . .	1868-1870	—	1
4.	Bengal Separate Revenue Despatches to Secretary of State for India . .	1860-1863	—	2
5.	Abstract of Proceedings of the North-Western Provinces in Separate Revenue Department	1860	—	1

*Papers of the Volume Number 558 amalgamated with Home/Foreign Departnts records.

1	2	3	4	
			(i)	(ii)
6.	Gradation List of Assam Commission .	1879-1883	—	1
7.	Gradation List of Officers in British Burma Commission	1879-1881	—	1
8.	Judicial Circular Letters of British Burma	1872-1878	—	1
9.	Oudh Police Circulars . . .	1864-1870	—	2
10.	Letters from Secretary, Records Committee to Secretary, Home Department	1861-1863	—	1
11.	Minutes of Proceedings of the Prison Conference	1877	—	1
12.	General Orders on various subjects .	1870-1915	—	50
13.	Rules of Business and Secretariat instructions	1893-1905	—	1
14.	Papers relating to removal of Indian Civil Service Officers for misconduct .	1888-1903	—	3
15.	A collection of important orders and precedents relating to procedure adopted in dealing with petitions for mercy from the condemned prisoners . . .	1885-1909	—	1
16.	Papers relating to appointment of Governors-General and Viceroys .	1858-1905	—	1
17.	Papers relating to appointment of Governors, Lieutenant-Governors, and Members of Executive Council . .	1899-1932	—	4
18.	Papers relating to Administrator-General, Bengal.	1903	—	1
19.	Letters issued from the Home Department (Deposit)	1860	—	1
20.	Demi-Official Diary	1892-1895	—	1
21.	Demi-Official Letters from Secretary, Home Department	1862-1868	—	2
22.	Office Notes	1869-1874	—	1
23.	Selections from Despatches of Secretary of State for India to various Governments in India	1859-1931	—	353
24.	Index to Selections from Despatches of Secretary of State for India to various Governments in India	1858-1878	—	1
25.	Home Department Letters of December 11, 1917 and replies	1917	—	1

SOME SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE SERIES

1. Restoration of Chandernagore to the French.
   Public, 21 June 1765, Nos. 1-2.
2. Slave-trade in Madagascar, and employment of slaves in the East India Company's settlement of Fort Marlborough.
   Public, 22 August 1765, No. 1.
3. *Farmans* granting the *Diwani* of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa to the English East India Company.
   Public, 9 September 1765, Nos. 2-6.
4. Governor-General's minute on introduction of paper-currency in India.
   Public, 1 May 1780, No. 24.
5. Royal Letters Patent defining the jurisdiction of Lord Bishop of Calcutta.
   Ecclesiastical, 1 November 1815, No. 1.
6. Institution of a free Press in India.
   Judicial, 18 May 1835, No. 7.
7. *Ishtehar* in Urdu issued by Nana Sahib on greased cartridges.
   Home, Public, 7 August 1857, No. 137.
8. Return showing allowances granted to Prisoners confined under Regulation III of 1818 of the Benares Division.
   Home, Judicial 'A', 14 January 1871, No. 5.
9. Port Blair declared a place of confinement for convicts sentenced to penal servitude.
   Home, Judicial 'A', 22 July 1871, Nos. 41–45.
10. Surendranath Banerjee's appeal to Government of India against his suspension from the Indian Civil Service.
    Home, Establismenth 'A', April 1874, Nos. 78–80.
11. Ban on participation of Government officials in meetings of the Indian National Congress.
    Home, Public 'A', January 1891, Nos. 1–4.
12. Establishment of the Imperial Record Department.
    Home, Public 'A', March 1891, Nos. 24–42.
13. Approval of use of Bel-chain and Leg iron in case of condemned prisoners and those sentenced to transportation for life.
    Home, Jails 'A', August 1891, Nos. 92-93.
14. Regulations for the control of habitual offenders in India.
    Home, Police 'A', February 1893, Nos. 11–329.

15. Introduction of anthropometric system for identification of criminals in Kashmir.
    Home, Police 'A', January 1896, Nos. 101–104.
16. Manufacture of carpets and other articles in Indian Jails for export to European countries.
    Home, Jails 'A', February 1896, Nos. 39–58.
17. Resolutions passed at a public meeting held in Calcutta protesting against the partition of Bengal.
    Home, Public 'B', February 1905, No. 154.
18. Memorial from Lajpat Rai and question of his release.
    Home, Political 'A', December 1907, Nos. 15-16.
19. Application of the Dramatic Performances Act (XIX of 1876) to Berar.
    Home, Political 'A', January 1908, No. 92.
20. Interception of the newspaper entitled *Free Hindustan.*
    Home, Political 'A', November 1908, Nos. 17-18.
21. Confidential Letter to Home Department regarding activities of Savarkar brothers.
    Home, Political 'A', October 1909, No. 219.
22. Transfer of capital from Calcutta to Delhi.
    Home, Establishment 'A', June 1912, Nos. 144-157.
23. Release of Bal Gangadhar Tilak after completion of his term of imprisonment in Mandalay.
    Home, Political 'A', July 1914, Nos. 135–138.
24. Starting of Passive Resistance Movement by Mahatma Gandhi and Annie Besant in Bombay and Madras against the Rowlatt Bills.
    Home, Political 'A', March 1919, No. 250.
25. Mahatma Gandhi's letter to Viceroy returning the *Kaisar-i-Hind* gold medal, the Zulu War Medal, and the Boer War Medal in pursuance of the scheme of non-cooperation in sympathy with the Khilafat Movement.
    Home, Political 'Deposit', August 1920, No. 38.
26. Establishment of Central Bureau of Information.
    Home, Political 'A', March 1921, Nos. 92-93.
27. Kakori Conspiracy Case Judgement.
    Home, Political-File No. 53/1927-K.W.
28. Question of prosecution of Dr. Kitchlew, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Subhas Chandra Bose, Baba Gurdit Singh for their speeches delivered at the Lahore session of the Indian National Congress.
    Home, Political-File No. 65/1930.

29. Mahatma Gandhi's speeches during Dandi March.
Home, Political-File No. 122/1930.

30. Chittagong Armoury Raid.
Home, Political-File No. 335/1930.

31. Complaint regarding ill treatment of undertrials of Meerut Conspiracy case.
Home, Political-File No. 120/1931.

32. Instruction banning demonstration in connection with the execution of Bhagat Singh.
Home, Political-File No. 4/21/1931.

33. Armed attack on Bengal Secretariat, resulting in the death of Lt. Col. Simpson, Inspector General of Prisons, Bengal.
Home, Political-File No. 7/12/1931.

34. 'Intelligence' notes on speeches made on the death of Chandra Shekhar Azad.
Home, Political-K.W. to File No. 159/1931.

35. Activities of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan and the Red Shirt Movement.
Home, Political-File No. 5/41/1931.

36. 2nd October to be observed as a public holiday on account of Gandhi Jayanti.
Home Affairs, Public-File No. 32/11/1948.

37. North-East Frontier Agency and Tribal Areas Five Year and Short-Term Plan.
Home Affairs, Public-File No. 51/52/1948.

38. Proposal for erection of a memorial in the memory of Gandhiji in Bhangi Colony in Delhi.
Home Affairs, Public-File No. 51/424/1949.

39. Oath of allegiance to be taken by Government Servants.
Home Affairs, Public-File No. 42/1/1950.

40. Future planning of Delhi and the Delhi region.
Home Affairs, Public-File No. 51/192/1950.

41. Question in the Parliament regarding unauthorised entry of Pakistan Nationals into India.
Home Affairs, Public-File No. 15/100/1950.

42. Enquiry into the export of cotton yarn from India to East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) in contravention of Land-Custom Rules.
Home Affairs, Police II, File No. 1/19/1950.

43. Policy regarding appointment of Director in the Intelligence Bureau.
Home Affairs, Police II, File No. 28/76/1951.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has the responsibility to keep the people informed about the policies, plans and programmes of the government. In discharging these obligations the Ministry is assisted by various media units, namely, (1) Press Information Bureau, (2) Publications Division, (3) Research and Reference Division, (4) Directorate of Advertising & Visual Publicity, (5) Registrar of Newspapers, (6) *Akashvani*, (7) *Doordarshan*, (8) Photo Division, (9) Directorate of Field Publicity, (10) Song and Drama Division, (11) Films Division, and (12) Central Board of Film Censors. The media units are required to provide coverage to the multifarious activities of the government and in pursuit of these objectives, they maintain liaison with the State Governments and also with other agencies that are engaged in mass-communications.

The term 'Information' came to be used officially for the first time, when on 1 June 1919 a small cell entitled 'Central Bureau of Information' was constituted within the Home Department. The main task of the Bureau was to collect yearly information about achievements of various government Departments and compile them in the form of an annual volume called *India* for presentation to the British Parliament in London. In 1920, functions of the Bureau were further expanded and it became necessary for the Bureau to supervise "distribution of correct information on an all India basis" and to inform the various Departments of the government the specific questions on which public opinion was exercised and on which further information was needed.[1] Towards the end of the same year, the 'Bureau' was put under the charge of a Director, who looked after the entire work of press-publicity and propaganda. A Directorate of Public Information was also created to look after other information work. On 1 June 1923, the Bureau was put on a permanent footing as the Bureau of Public Information.

During the years 1935-36, studies were undertaken to identify the various problems and needs of the Press. On the basis of the findings of these studies, the Bureau was re-organized and the designation of the Bureau-head was changed from Director, to Principal Information Officer. The re-organised 'Bureau' became the main channel for providing information to the media. During World War II, a Director

1. *Press Information Bureau Handbook and Annual Report*, 1981-1982. (New Delhi, 1983).

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of General Information was also appointed to plan, implement and coordinate war publicity programme separately.[2]

In course of time, increase in the activities of various Government Departments led to considerable expansion in publicity and information work of the respective Departments. Consequently, it was decided to amalgamate all publicity and information functions of the government in one Department. And thus, the Department of Information and Broadcasting came into existence in October 1941. This Department took over activities concerning publicity to government policies from Home Department, and those concerning 'Broadcasting from Department of Communications.

On the other hand, the origin of Broadcasting lay in the Telegraph Branch of the Department of Industries and Labour. Towards the end of World War I and thereafter, this particular Branch remained busy in considering the effects and use of wireless receivers. However, broadcasting began as an enterprise in India only in 1921. It first came as an experimental transmission in August 1921, when the *Times of India,* in collaboration with the Post and Telegraphs Department, broadcast from it's Bombay office a special programme of music at the request of Sir George Lloyd, the Governor of Bombay.[3] Thereafter, several conferences were organised by the Government of India in which manufacturers, Press representatives, and others interested in radio-broadcasting, participated and expressed their views on the subject. Local governments and other Departments were also approached by the Government of India to express their opinion in this regard. Consequently, the Government issued a Press Communique in March 1925 setting forth its broadcasting policy and inviting applications from those intending to undertake broadcasting[4].

Meanwhile, amateur Radio Clubs came into existence in cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras with the object of stimulating interest in radio communications and allied matters. These clubs took initiative to put broadcasting on a somewhat systematic basis by conducting regular broadcasting programmes. Radio Club of Bengal was the first to broadcast and transmit programme in November 1923 from it's Calcutta Station, followed by Bombay Radio Club from Bombay Station in June 1924, and Madras Presidency Radio Club from Madras Centre in July 1924.[5]

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2. During World War I also, a Central Publicity Board had been set up on 6 June, 1918. The Board was constituted for the purpose of war-propaganda among the people in general through cinematographs, films, slides, pamphlets, posters, handbooks, etc. Similar Boards were established in the Provinces for the same purpose. All these Boards were, however, dissolved by 31 March, 1919—Home, Public 'B', April 1919, No. 10, (National Archives of India, New Delhi).

3. All India Radio, *Akash Bharti,* Volume II, (New Delhi, 1978) Page A-2.

4. Home Department, F. 217/1927-Political (National Archives of India, New Delhi).

5. In Madras a programme was broadcast on 16 May 1924 on experimental basis and not on regular basis.

In pursuance of government policy to entrust broadcasting to private enterprise, Indian Broadcasting Company Limited was granted concession to establish a commercial broadcasting service in British India.[6] Accordingly, an agreement was signed between Government of India and Indian Broadcasting Company on 13 September 1926. Under the terms of this agreement the Company was bound to "install and work efficient broadcasting stations at Calcutta and Bombay in the first instance, and subsequently in other places when it becomes necessary and practicable to do so."[7] The Indian Broadcasting Company was heralded by the publication of the *Indian Radio Times* on 15 July 1927, announcing the imminent opening of its Bombay Station. Subsequently, the Company installed first broadcasting station at Bombay on 23 July 1927 followed by a second one at Calcutta on 26 August 1927.[8] Each of these two stations was managed by one Station Director. The main subjects covered by the programme were agriculture, hygienic science and rural economy, etc. Government of India, however, reserved the right to lay down general principles governing broadcasting of political, religious and controversial matters of any kind, and retained full powers of censorship.

In July 1927 itself, Governor of Bombay became instrumental in the formation of a Programme Advisory Board, which consisted of eleven members under the Chairmanship of Lady Cowasji Jehangir (Jr.). This Board was to hold periodic consultations and to take decisions on major broadcasting issues such as proportion of Indian and European matters in the programme, coverage of classical music, and use of Hindi in addition to English in the programmes.[9] Similarly, Governor of Bengal constituted a separate Board for Calcutta Station. However, this Board could not hold any meeting.

The Indian Broadcasting Company, though had a base capital of Rs. 6,00,000/- started incurring heavy losses and ultimately went into voluntary liquidation with effect from the end of February 1930.

6. Commercial broadcasting at that time was considered as broadcasting for gain, as distinct from non-commercial broadcasting from which no revenue accrued to those carrying it out. This practice of putting commercial broadcasting in use continued to work till 1934, when as a result of pressure exerted on the government, commercial operation was discontinued.

7. Home Department F. 217/1927 Political (National Archives of India, New Delhi).

8. Bombay Station was inaugurated by the Viceroy, Lord Irwin, and the Calcutta Station by Sir Stanley Jackson, Governor of Bengal.

9. The Board held two meetings on 11 July and 1 November 1927. In the first meeting it was decided to use English and Gujarati for News Bulletins, Weather Reports and Market Prices, and Hindustani for announcing Ordinary Indian Programme. In the Second meeting it was settled 'that an experiment should be tried in using Hindi instead of Gujarati in addition to English throughout the Programme'.

At this crucial juncture it looked as if broadcasting had failed in India, while it was making good progress in many other countries.[10] However, in response to popular demand, government took over the 'Company' and ran the two Stations—Bombay and Calcutta—on an experimental basis for a period of two years from 1 April 1930.[11] With the 'Company' coming under direct Government control, its nomenclature also underwent a change, and it was henceforth called, 'Indian State Broadcasting Service' (I.S.B.S.). Functioning of this Company was finally taken over by the Government of India in May 1932 and it was placed under the administrative control of the Department of Industries and Labour.

The Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, passed in 1933 gave Broadcasting in India a firm footing by including provisions to regulate broadcasting in India. Later, the constitutional position regarding broadcasting was extensively defined under the Government of India Act, 1935.

Despite inauguration of the Indian State Broadcasting Service, parallel efforts continued to expand broadcasting in India. The Marconi Company offered the Government of the North West Frontier Province the loan of the transmitter and a number of community receivers for rural broadcasting in the Frontier Province—the first studied effort to take broadcasting to the villages of India. That same year the Indian Agriculture Institute at Allahabad also started transmitting rural programmes. A year later the Dehra Dun Broadcasting Association commenced broadcasts but had to close down two years later for lack of funds.

On 1 January 1936, Delhi went on the air, when a 20 K.W. transmitter was installed at 18, Alipur Road. Henceforth, activities of the I.S.B.S. increased considerably and resulted in the creation of new sections and units, such as Installation Department, Research Department, and News Service Section. In the same year the name of the periodical *'Indian Radio Times'*, originally brought out under the aegis of the Indian Broadcasting Company and later on by the Indian State Broadcasting Service, was changed to *'The Indian Listener'*, which in turn, was re-christened *'Akashvani'* in later years.[12]

The name Indian State Broadcasting Service was changed to All India Radio in June 1936. A monogram, which placed the letters AIR over the map of India, was also simultaneously prepared. A year later, a scheme to centralise the news service was prepared under which a News Editor was appointed. With the creation of the Department of Communications on 8 November 1937, Broadcasting was placed under it.

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10. The Inchcape Committee reported that broadcasting enterprise had proved a losing proposition and, being unsuitable for India, should be closed. Publication of this report in the press evoked public protest and the Government of India decided to take over broadcasting under it's control.
11. *AIR Manual*, Volume I, Parts I & II, (New Delhi, 1970) para 1.2.
12. *Akash Bharti*, Volume II. (New Delhi, 1978) page A-7.

In November 1939, Monitoring Service was started under the General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters, Delhi, chiefly with a view to collect material for preparation of counter propaganda and to keep a security check on enemy broadcasts audible in India. This office was moved to Shimla in February 1940[13] A year later, in 1941, it was transferred to Department of Information and Broadcasting, which itself was constituted in October 1941, after taking over activities concerning publicity to Government policies, etc. from Home Department and those concerning Broadcasting from Department of Communications.

During World War II, 'News Service Section' of All India Radio remained extremely over-burdened with work relating to both Home Service and External Service. On the conclusion of the War, this Section was re-designated as the 'Central News Organization'.[14] In 1948, this Organization was split up into two Divisions, namely, News Service Division, and External Service Division. News Bulletins of the All India Radio prepared by these Divisions are materials of immense documentary value.[15]

Soon after Independence, Government of India laid great emphasis on development programmes, and dissemination of information on important aspects of the country's life. Consequently, various new development programmes were taken up by the Ministry.[16]

Keeping the aforesaid objectives in view, a Films Division with its Headquarters at Bombay, was set up in 1948. The task assigned to this Division concerned production of films, newsreels and documentaries, etc. Later on, when the Government of India passed the Cinematographic Act in 1952, Central Board of Film Censors was set up at Bombay. Its main function was to examine and grant certificate to films, which could be exhibited in the country. The Board has its regional offices at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

In 1951, a Research and Reference Division was set up in Delhi to extend help and assistance in the functioning of the Ministry. One of the primary functions of this Division was to prepare a monthly 'Diary of Events', providing coverage to major national and international events. It also maintained an index of news items on national and international affairs. Since 1953, this 'Division' has been compiling *India—A Reference Annual;* which provides information on diverse aspects of national life and activities.

Towards the end of 1953, Field Publicity Organization was established as a part of the Integrated Publicity Programme of the Five

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13. AIR Manual, Volume I, Part III, (New Delhi, 1970) para 12.1.

14. *Ibid.* Para 11.1.1

15. A bulk of 491 volumes of the News Bulletins pertaining to the period 1950—61 and complete with indexes are in the custody of National Archives of India.

16. The Department of Information and Broadcasting was re-christened as Ministry in 1947..

Year Plans.[17] On 3 April 1954, Transcription Service was formed into a separate office and was entrusted with functions of preparing processed records for use in All India Radio.

In 1955, this Ministry set up Children Film Society with the objective of undertaking and promoting production, distribution, and exhibition of Children Films. In the same year, Central Newsreel Unit, was established at Delhi, and was entrusted with the task of preparing weekly newsreels in English and Hindi. From time to time this Unit was engaged in preparation of special newsreels and documentaries on various topical matters.

An important event in the field of broadcasting took place in May 1957 when Bombay Radio Station earned the credit of starting *Vividh Bharati* Unit. This Unit was shifted to Delhi Station in September 1958 and continued to function as a part of the Transcription Service. The main objective of the service was to provide alternative listening by way of light entertainment. In 1959, units like Archives and Central Tape Bank were put under the Transcription Service and the designation of the Transcription Service was changed to "Transcription and Programme Exchange Service".

A new and significant chapter in the annals of broadcasting in India was opened when an experimental Television Service was launched as a part of All India Radio in Delhi on 15 September 1959. The next year, Film Institute of India was set up in Pune with the objective of providing training in technical aspects of film making like cinematography, sound engineering, editing, direction, art direction, make-up and costumes.

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17. This Organization was separated and put under the independent charge of a Director in 1958.

MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

India is a country endowed with innumerable water resources and this has been possible because of numerous big and small rivers, which traverse the length and breadth of the country. These water resources, however, have failed at times to serve the required purpose because of some calamity or other. So, timely efforts to revive them and to make them usable have always been made by those, who governed the country.

In the 19th century, the first major initiative as regards water resource management was taken in 1810 when the Military Board appointed a Committee of Survey to enquire into the state of old canals constructed both on the eastern and western side of river *Yamuna*. Unfortunately, very little follow up action was taken on the findings of this Committee. Nevertheless, with the appointment of Lieutenant Blaine as Chief Engineer, Irrigation, in 1815, restoration work of the canal, particularly that of the West *Yamuna* Canal, was taken up. As far as the construction work of the East *Yamuna* Canal was concerned, it was taken up only in 1823 when Major John Colvin was appointed General Superintendent of Irrigation at Delhi.[1] In December 1830, the Military Board was reorganized and consequently, 'Canal and Embankment Department' became one of the five Departments that were under the administrative control of the Board.[2] However, business connected with irrigation in the erstwhile princely states remained under the charge of Foreign Department.

In course of time more measures were taken to expand and improve irrigation both in British India and in the princely states. In July 1833, Government of India helped Nawab of Oudh by providing him the services of Captain Davidson, an Engineer, to undertake construction of a canal in his dominion from Fatehgarh to Lucknow connecting rivers the *Ganges* and the *Gomti* "for future benefit to the trade and cultivation of Oudh." In the meantime, successful execution of restoration work on the *Yamuna* canals in Northern India encouraged the authorities to take up improvement work on the *Coleroon* in the South, and from 1836 onwards many works were regularly and vigorously taken up in that direction.[3] Similarly, work on the *Ganges* canal was taken up in the late forties and was completed in 1856. A report on the *Ganges* canal was also prepared by the Military Board.

1. The work was actually taken up by Col. Robert Smith and Col. Baird Smith.
2. The other Departments were :
   (i) Ordnance Department,
   (ii) Department of Public Works, including roads, bridges and public, civil and military buildings of every description.
   (iii) Commissariat Department, and
   (iv) Stud Department.
3. *Coleroon* is one of the branches of the river *Cauvery*.

This report, which contained useful information on the laying of foundations in the bad soil, was extensively used by Madras Board of Revenue and princely state of Mysore. In 1854, Government of Bengal too undertook the task of survey and construction of canals in Shahbad, and other districts of Bihar. Moreover, *Bari Doab Canal* Project, which was already underway in Punjab, was completed in 1859.

Questions arising out of dispute over sharing of water of the river that passed through more than one princely state quite often raised their head and instructions on the subject were issued on 26 February 1843 through the Foreign Department to the extent that "in every case a *Vakeel* from each party should accompany an Engineer Officer appointed by the British Government to the several places where any dispute may have arisen; that the Engineer Officer should examine into and record facts, make an exact plan, and submit to the Government his opinion upon the whole matter together with the representations of the *Vakeels,* and the arrangement if any, to which on the part of their respective states the *Vakeels* are ready to accede."[4]

On 30 April 1855, Military Board was abolished and functions pertaining to irrigation were taken over by the newly created Public Works Department.[5] But irrigation works in the princely states continued to be handled by the Foreign Department.

Successful completion of various canal projects encouraged the government to further boost up and develop irrigation projects in the country. To fulfill this objective, government created a separate 'Irrigation Branch' in Public Works Department with effect from 1 January 1867. Inspector General of Irrigation Work was also simultaneously appointed and entrusted with the responsibility of supervising all irrigation works in the country, though Secretary, Public Works Department was made the consultative functionary.[6]

In 1880, Government of India took several measures to reduce expenditure. As a result, the post of Chief Engineer, Irrigation, which had been created in 1815, was abolished. The Inspector General, however, continued to retain his post.

Together with the development of irrigation in the country, electricity started playing a vital role with its introduction in the later half of 19th century. As far back as 1881, electricity was introduced in a practical way for the first time in Howrah Jute Mills Company, Calcutta.[7] On 1 July 1887, Government of India passed the Indian Electricity Act, which provided "protection of person and

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4. Foreign Department, Political, 15 March, 1843, Nos. 15-16, (National Archives of India, New Delhi).
5. The Public Works Department came into existence on 7 February, 1855.
6. It was decided that the Inspector General, Irrigation Works, will not be subordinate to the Secretary, Public Works Department.
7. After a few years it was discontinued and was generally re-adopted in 1895 by all Jute Mills in Calcutta.

property and for the prevention of injury to telegraph lines from appliances or apparatus used in the generation of supply and consumption of electricity for lighting and other purpose."[8] After a few years, in 1895 Government of Bengal passed Calcutta Electric Lighting Act under which first licence for supply of electricity in Calcutta was granted to the Indian Electric Company Limited.[9] Thus, Calcutta became the first metropolitan city in the country to have public supply of electricity, though supply of electricity actually commenced on 17 April 1899.

On 23 December 1897. Public Works Department was reorganised and Joint Secretary, Civil Works, was required to act as the Inspector-General of Irrigation. On 1 March 1900, there was further re-organisation in the Public Works Department. Consequently, works relating to irrigation dealt within the Irrigation Branch, were placed on a separate list, alongwith subjects like Roads and Buildings. Henceforth, two Secretaries were to handle the functions in the Public Works Department—one to look after Irrigation, Roads and Buildings, and the other to supervise all works relating to Railways. Power component, however, was dealt in a separate Civil Works (Electricity) Branch of Public Works Department from 1899.

The main functions of Civil Works (Electricity) Branch were to deal with agreements with private companies for providing electric transmission lines at the coal and iron mines, implementation of rules framed under various Electricity Acts, purchase of copper wire, establishments required for the electricity works, etc. Another important function was to issue licence for supply of electricity for lighting purpose. This particular function was of purely commercial nature. Consequently, in 1906 it was transferred from Public Works Department to the newly created Department of Commerce and Industry.[10] In actual practice the transfer of this function relating to issue of licence proved unsatisfacory and, therefore, in 1911 it was re-transferred to Public Works Department.

Soon, two important developments took place in respect of water resource management of the country. Firstly, the Central Water and Power Research Station was established in Pune in 1916. Secondly, with the introduction of Government of India Act 1919, 'Irrigation' became a provincial subject.

On 1 March 1920, the Government of India constituted a new office called "Board of Industries and Munitions" on a temporary basis and this Board looked after some of the functions of the Public

8. In the Act. electricity included galvanism, magnetism, magnets-electricity and electro-magnetism.
9. This company was soon after re-christened as the Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation Limited.
Records relating to the Act of 1895 are available in the West Bengal State Archives.
10. The Department of Commerce and Industry was constituted on 1 Marh 1905, but its Electricity Branch began to operate from 1906.

Works Department. The 'Electricity Branch' of this newly constituted Board took over the functions of the Civil Works (Electricity) Branch of the Public Works Department. On 15 February 1921, the board was abolished and in its place a new Department of Industries was created. Therefore, functions of the Electricity Branch of the erstwhile Board were taken over by the newly created Electricity Branch of Department of Industries.

In 1923, government took measures to effect economy in administration, and thus, re-distribution of portfolios and re-allocation of work among the various Departments of the Government of India took place. Old Departments like Department of Public Works, and Department of Industries were abolished and their functions were taken over by the newly created Department of Industries and Labour.[11] The two main functions pertaining to irrigation viz. 'Accounts-Irrigation' and 'Civil Works-Irrigation', which were earlier handled by Public Works Department, and 'Electricity', which had been dealt with by Department of Industries, were brought under the administrative control of the newly created Department of Industries and Labour. These three subjects, though retained the old nomenclature, were now treated as three independent and separate branches under Industries and Labour Department.

At the same time it was found necessary to associate a technical officer of the rank of the Chief Engineer with the Department of Industries and Labour to advise it on matters relating to Irrigation and Public Works. Such an officer, who was to replace the Inspector-General of Irrigation was to be primarly an irrigation expert. Accordingly, the post of the Inspector-General of Irrigation was abolished in May 1923, and a new post of Consulting Engineer to the Government of India was created to look after the duties then discharged by the Inspector-General of Irrigation. On 22 April 1926, Central Irrigation Board of Provincial Engineers, was constituted under the Chairmanship of the Consulting Engineer and it started functioning with effect from 1 January 1927.[12] One of the primary functions of this Board was to render independent advice to the Government of India and Local Governments on such questions in connection with Irrigation projects as may be referred to it.

One of the important offices constituted under the charge of the Board was the 'Central Bureau of Information for Irrigation', which started functioning with effect from May 1931.[13] It mainly functioned

11. Since it was considered that work connected with Irrigation was more closely related to Public Works rather than to Land Revenue or any other Department, this subiect was transferred to the newly created Department of Industries alongwith Public Works.

12. The Board is sometimes referred to as 'Board of Irrigation' or 'Central Board of Irrigation'.

13. The Bureau was established on recommendations of the Royal Commission on Agriculture in India. Establishment of the Bureau was sanctioned in January. 1930 with headquarters at Shimla, as attached office of the Department of Industries and Labour.

as a channel for exchange of information between the Chief Engineer and the Research Officers. It also established a specialised library of publications on irrigation. But shortly the financial strain on the Government of India rendered future irrigation developments impracticable and the post of Consulting Engineer to the Government of India was abolished in March 1932 as a measure of economy.[14]

The Government of India Act 1935, confirmed irrigation within the jurisdiction and control of the Provincial Governments, and irrigation was to assume a federal character only when there was any inter-provincial dispute. With the introduction of Provincial Autonomy from 1 April 1937, every administrative unit in the country undertook separately necessary legislative or administrative measures in respect of waterways passing through its territory.

On 8 November 1937, Department of Industries and Labour was bifurcated into Department of Labour, and Department of Communications.[15] Henceforth, subjects like 'Electricity' and 'Irrigation' and others related to public works were transferred to Department of Labour.

During World War II period, all possible efforts were made for timely supply of power for war purposes. A post of Electrical Commissioner was created in 1941 to facilitate arrangements for supply of power to the ordnance factories and industries engaged in war efforts.

Meanwhile Central Board of Irrigation realised that at times position taken by a Province in matters relating to waterways, adversely affected the neighbouring Provinces. Therefore, in November 1943, it suggested establishment of a technical authority at the Centre, which could take over the responsibility of collecting and collating necessary data for information and use of Government of India and various concerned Provinces. Accordingly, Central Waterways, Irrigation, and Navigation Commission was constituted by the government in April 1945 with the objective "to initiate, coordinate and further the scheme for control, conservation and utilization of water resources throughout the country." The Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Waterways was nominated as the Chairman of the newly formed Commission.[16]

In 1944, a Central Technical Power Board was constituted to act as a Central Planning Organisation and to advise the Central and

14. With the abolition of the post of Consulting Engineer the 'Central Bureau of Information for Irrigation' ceased to remain as an attached office but was placed under a President who was to be of the rank of a Chief Engineer of any Province.

15. The subject Industries was taken over by Department of Commerce.

16. The post of Consulting Engineer for Irrigation and Waterways, which had been abolished in 1932, was revived in 1944.

Provincial Governments and also the princely states on issues concerning planning and development of electricity supply throughout the country.

On 8 April 1946, Labour Department was split up into (1) The Department of Works, Mines and Power, and (2) Department of Labour. Subjects like Irrigation, Power, etc. were taken over by the Department of Works, Mines and Power.

On 29 August 1947, the Department of Works, Mines and Power was designated as Ministry of Works, Mines and Power. As far as Power was concerned, the new ministry did not introduce any major change. However, in January 1948, the office of the Electrical Commissioner was amalgamated with the Central Technical Power Board and a new office 'Central Electricity Commission' was constituted.

In 1951, all subjects pertaining to natural resources, including water and electricity development, were transferred to the newly constituted Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research. In the same year, the Central Waterways, Irrigation, and Navigation Commission, and the Central Electricity Commission were merged to constitute the office of the 'Central Water and Power Commission'.

In the First Five Year Plan, Irrigation and Power projects of the country accounted for one third of the total outlay, and hence it was deemed proper to create a separate Ministry of Irrigation and Power. Consequently, in May 1952, Government of India announced the creation of new Ministry which actually came into existence in August 1952, and it continued to function till 1960 and thereafter.

During this period the Ministry of Irrigation and Power took up various programmes relating to water resources management. In the wake of unprecedented floods, the Ministry launched the National Flood Control Programme in 1954, to protect land from frequent floods, and constituted the Flood Control Board. In 1959, a new office called 'The Floods Forecasting Organisation' was also created to issue flood forecasts on the river *Yamuna* for Delhi Railway bridge.

A very important development took place in the year 1960 when the Indus Water Treaty was signed beween India and Pakistan. Under the Treaty, both the countries would have one commissioner each for the *Indus* Waters and these two Commissioners together constituted the permanent *Indus* Commission. The purpose and functions of the Commission were to establish and maintain co-operative arrangements for implementation of the Treaty.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Migration of working class people from rural to urban areas started in a considerable degree with the gradual growth of organised industry in India in the nineteenth century. In the first half of that century, problem of labour and their working conditions, however, did not appear grave. Therefore, all questions concerning labour were dealt within the Military Board (1786–1855), Public Branch of Home Department (1850–1855), and Public Works Department on it's creation on 7 February 1855.

Establishment of a large number of factories alongwith the rise of mineral and coal mining operations in the latter half of the nineteenth century led to corresponding rise in the number of both skilled and unskilled labourers working in factories and mines. Working conditions and welfare of these labourers soon drew attention of the Government and legislations were enacted for regulating labour in organized factories and mines. On 1 July 1881, Indian Factory Act was passed, which provided safety measures for factory workers alongwith prescribing minimum age limit and maximum working hours for child labour.[1] Administration of this Act, and work regarding factories were within the purview of the Judicial Branch of the Home Department. In 1901, Indian Mines Act was passed and it provided for sanitation, and safety in the mines.

Following the Mines Act of 1901, two important institutions, namely, Directorate General of Mines Safety, and Bureau of Mines Inspection were set up in Calcutta in 1901 and 1902 respectively. The Directorate administered the provisions of safety, health and welfare of mine workers as stipulated in the Mines Act, while the Bureau made regular inspection of mines. In 1904, the Bureau was named as Department of Mines, and in 1909 it was shifted to Dhanbad which has since been the seat of that organization.[2]

On 1 March 1905, when a separate Department of Commerce and Industry was created, many subjects were transferred to it from various Departments. In this transfer, the new Department obtained 'Factories' from Home Department, 'Geology and Minerals' from Revenue and Agricultural Department, and 'Labour', and 'Civil Works' (Coal and Iron) from Public Works Department. In 1917, re-distribution of work in the Department of Commerce and Industry resulted in the creation of two new Branches—Mines Regulations

1. For details about the Act, see "Legislative Department papers relating to Act XV of 1881", (National Archives of India, New Delhi).

2. On 1 January, 1960, the name of the Organization was again changed to office of the Chief Inspector of Mines.

Branch, and Mineral Resources Branch. While the former was to enforce mine regulations, the latter was to take care of development of mineral resources in India.

With the Constitution of the Board of Industries and Munitions on 1 March 1920, all matters relating to industries including Labour were transferred to it from Department of Commerce and Industries. Thus, legislation of labour problems, introduction of labour welfare schemes, administration of Labour Bureau and participation in the meetings of the International Labour Organisation etc. came under the administrative control of this Board[3] Later, on the recommendation of the Board a Separate Department of Industries was created in 1921.[4] This Department was again re-organized in April 1923 and named as Department of Industries and Labour thus recognizing for the first time the need for a specialized Department to deal with matters relating to labour.

An important out-come of unemployment convention held under the auspices of International Labour Organization in 1919, was the establishment of a system of free employment agencies under the control of a central authority. Creation of such employment agencies, however, was not considered necessary in the Indian context, since it was argued that demand for industrial labour was more than the supply. It was, however, considered desirable to encourage migration of agricultural labour from certain congested areas and the creation of regular Public employment agencies in such cases, which were considered desirable. Thereafter, Government of India passed many Acts from time to time covering benefit measures for workers, such as social security, wage and bonus, funds and other facilities for welfare, protection of child labour and training and safety in factories and mines.[5]

The Royal Commission on Labour, which had been appointed on 4 July 1929 to report on the existing conditions of labour in industrial undertakings, and plantations in British India, examined, among other things the proposal to establish employment exchanges in India. The Committee in its report submitted in 1931, observed that time was not opportune for setting up of such exchanges. Meanwhile, questions relating to enactment of a legislation and administration of the subject 'Unemployment' were transferred from the Central to the Provincial Governments under the provisions of Government of India Act 1935. Both Central and several provincial Gov-

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3. In 1918, India had become a member of the International Labour Organization, and a year later an Indian delegation attended the unemployment convention held under the auspices of the said organization.

4. For details regarding Department of Industries and also for Board of Industries and Munitions see chapter "Ministry of Commerce and Industry".

5. The various Acts included wholesale revision of the Factories Acts in 1922 with subsequent further amending Acts of 1923, the Trade Union Act of 1926 and the amending Act of 1928, and the Trade Disputes Acts of 1929, etc.

ernments, thereupon, appointed separate Committees to investigate different aspects of labour and employment problems.[6]

On 8 November 1937, Department of Labour and Industries was bifurcated into two Departments, namely, Department of Labour, and Department of Communications. While Industries went to Department of Commerce, Work allotted to the newly created Labour Department was divided under two administrative heads namely, (i) Labour and (ii) Mines. Subjects like Factories, Workmen's Compensation, Trade Disputes, Trade Unions, International Labour, Statutory supervision of Labour on Railways, Labour in Docks, etc., came under the head 'Labour', while Minerals and Geology, Migration, Printing and Stationery, Technical Education, Safety Legislation etc. came under the administration of head 'Mines'. In addition, all the Branches which dealt with the subject 'Labour' in the erstwhile Department of Industries and Labour were transferred to the new Department.

The activities of Department of Labour increased considerably during the Second World War. In 1940, National Service Labour Tribunals were set up following promulgation of National Service (Technical Personnel) Ordinance. These Tribunals organized Technical Training Schemes with the object to provide skilled technical personnel for armed forces. As the Second World War progressed voluntary employment exchanges for skilled and semi-skilled personnel were set up for the first time under the aegis of these Tribunals. During the period 1943-44 employment exchanges were set up at Bombay, Ahmedabad, Calcutta, Delhi, Jamshedpur, Kanpur, Nagpur, Madras, Lahore and Karachi on experimental basis and remained under the control of the National Service Tribunals till 1945.

Another significant programme that started during the war period was the War Technicians Training Scheme (1940). It was a crash programme to meet urgent requirements of defence forces as well as the industries engaged in defence production. In fact, this marked the beginning of the Vocational Training Scheme in the country. A year later, Government of India established a Directorate of Cost of Living Index Scheme at Shimla for compilation, and dissemination of labour statistics. Subsequently, the need for comprehensive labour statistics was felt in the context of formulation of labour policy for which Government needed a permanent central organization for collection and dissemination of dependable statistics relating to labour. The Directorate of Cost of Living Index Scheme was therefore, rechristened as Labour Bureau on 1 October 1946 with enlarged functions.

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6. Noteworthy among these Committees were Unemployment Committee (1935) under the Chairmanship of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Labour Enquiry Committee (1938) under the Chairmanship of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Bihar Labour Enquiry Committee (1940) also under the Chairmanship of Dr. Rajendra Prasad, and Bombay Textile Labour Enquiry Committee (1940) under the Chairmanship of Mr. Justice H. V. Divatia. These Committees recommended establishment of employment exchanges at different places.

In 1943, Office of the Chief Adviser, Factories was established to advise the Government, various industries and other concerned organizations on matters relating to safety, health, and welfare of workers in factories. It also dealt with matters relating to administration of Factories Act.

Towards the end of the war, need for an organization that could facilitate orderly absorption into civil life of a large number of war-service personnel and war workers facing discharge was felt. Therefore, Department of Labour prepared a scheme for setting up of a Resettlement and Employment Organization and obtained the necessary concurrence of the Provincial Governments. The Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment was thus created in July 1945 with the object of supervising, coordinating and directing the work of the Central and Regional offices of the Director General. Soon a number of Employment Exchanges were set up by the Office of the Director General throughout the country.[7]

Thus, during World War II activities of the Labour Department had become so unwieldy that the Government of India decided to split it up on 8 April 1946, into two Departments, viz. Department of Works, Mines and Power, and Department of Labour. Subjects relating to Labour problems alongwith administration and control of Employment Exchanges, Technical Training Centres, and Labour Tribunals came under the supervision of Department of Labour. In addition, this Department was entrusted with the responsibility of rehabilitation of demobilised civil and military personnel.

Department of Works, Mines and Power, on the other hand, took charge of Public Works, Mines, Geological Survey, Stationery and Printing, Boilers and Explosives etc. In this year, Department of Labour as well evolved a five year programme of legislative and administrative measures in consultation with the State Governments, and all India Organisations of employers and workers. The programme covered all aspects of labour activities and labour welfare such as prescription of minimum wages, promotion of fair wage agreements, limitation or reduction of the hours of work in mines to bring them in line with the working hours in the factories, prescription of conditions of recruitment and terms of service, machinery for dealing with trade disputes, health insurance, maternity benefits etc.

On 29 August 1947, Department of Labour became Ministry of Labour. Main responsibility of this Ministry was to lay down policy for subjects like Employment, Wages, Welfare of Labour, Trade Union Industrial Relations, Social Security of Labour, etc.

A few more changes, particularly in the field of employment took place in the post-independence period. In September 1947, appoint-

7. Of the Employment Exchanges established, were one Central, seven Regional, forty five Sub-Regional, and two Special Exchanges (one for naval and one for aircraft trade).

ments under the Central Government in Delhi, which were till then under the Central Employment Exchange, were transferred to Delhi Regional Employment Exchange. As a result, Central Employment Exchange at the Headquarters was left with the job connected exclusively with vacancy clearing. Consequently, Central Exchange was redesignated as the 'Central Clearing House' to act as an interprovincial clearing house for applicants and vacancies within the various regions. Then in April 1950, Employment Exchanges operating in Princely States were brought under the administrative control of Director General, Resettlement and Employment, as required under the Financial Integration Scheme of the Government of India.[8]

In 1952, Government of India had set up the Training and Employment Services Organization Committee which submitted its report in 1954. Recommendations made in this report were implemented from time to time. In 1956, Occupational Information and Research Programme was initiated, while in 1957, Vocational Guidance and Employment Counselling began to function.

With effect from 17 April 1957, Ministry of Labour was designated as Ministry of Labour and Employment, and thus the subject 'employment' received its due importance. The new Ministry dealt with subjects like Labour Welfare and Trade Unions, Industrial and Labour Disputes, Factory Labour, Unemployment Insurance and Health Insurance, Labour employed in Railways, Major Ports, Mines and Oilfields, participation in International Labour Conference, etc. Under this Ministry, Central Board for Workers Education was established at Nagpur in September 1957 with the main object of organizing educational programmes on matters connected with management of trade unions and allied subjects. Further in December 1958. The first University Employment and Guidance Bureau was started in Delhi University. Again in January 1959, the first special Employment Exchange for the Physically Handicapped was set up in Bombay.

8. Employment Exchanges had been opened in 1946 in seventeen Princely States. The States, which had not opened Employment Exchanges, were linked with the nearest Employment Exchange in British India.

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

Both passenger and goods traffic on railways in India had their beginning in mid-nineteenth century. The first railway line to carry passengers from Bombay to Thane was opened on 16 April 1853. The first railway track of commercial significance was completed in August 1854 and it was to carry coal between Raniganj and Calcutta. While these modest beginnings were made, matters concerning different aspects of railways, viz. laying of tracks, construction of bridges, acquisition of rolling stock, etc. were sorted out in various Branches of Home Department till separate railway proceedings began to be recorded in the same Department with effect from July 1850. All these functions were, however, handed over to the Public Works Department when it was created on 7 February, 1855.

Gradual extension of railways in the country rendered it necessary to have a comprehensive statute which could regulate working of railways in the country and give it a definite base. Indian Railways Act was therefore passed in 1890 to lay down in greater detail the power and responsibilities of the Railway administration, which included inspection of railways, construction and maintenance of works, railway commissions, traffic facilities, etc.

In the beginning of the 20th century railway work had outgrown the machinery designed to deal with it and it was realised that there was unnecessary delay in disposing of business and little attention was being paid to the commercial aspect of railway policy and undertakings. Consequently, in 1901, Thomas Robertson was appointed as Special Commissioner for Indian Railways "to enquire into and report upon the administration and working of Indian railways". In his report submitted on 25 March 1903, Thomas Robertson recommended that the administration of railways should be entrusted to a small Board comprising a President or Chief Commissioner, who should have a thorough practical knowledge of railway working. He should be assisted by two other Commissioners, who should be men of high railway standing and should have similar training as that of the Commissioner. He also suggested that the Board should be assisted by a Secretary and a Chief Inspector of Railways who might tender advice on all technical, engineering and mechanical questions. These recommendations having been accepted, the Railway Board was constituted by a Resolution of the Government of India dated 18 February 1905. It was later given statutory powers under the Railway Board Act of 1905. The Railway Board started functioning in March 1905 and was placed under the administrative control of Department of Commerce and Industry.

In May 1907, a Committee on Indian Railway Finance and Administration was appointed under the Chairmanship of Sir James Mackay (later Lord Inchcape) to report on among other things, the working of Railway Board and suggest measures to improve its functioning. In its report submitted on 5 March 1908, the Committee recommended that constitution of the Board should be modified and it should consist of a President and two members, one experienced in railway construction, and the other in railway traffic. Meanwhile, Secretary of State for India had suggested in January 1908, that Chairman of the Railway Board should be made an *ex-officio* Secretary to the Government of India so that he could be in direct relations with Commerce and Industry Member of the Governor General's Executive Council. This suggestion emanated from the fact that subordination of the Railway Board to the Department of Commerce and Industry had confined the presentation of important railway business, first to the concerned Member of the Council and then the Governor General, in the hands of non-experts on railway matters. Further the Chairman, Railway Board, was at times excluded from the final discussion on railway business and their expert views were ignored. As a result of these suggestions, a Resolution was passed on 18 September 1908, by which Chairman of the Railway Board became "President, Railway Board". He was also endowed with enhanced powers and he could overrule his colleagues in case he did not agree with them on any proposal. Further, the President was made *ex-officio* Secretary to Government of India. Henceforth, he gained the right to have direct access to both the Governor General and the Commerce and Industry Member of the Executive Council. Though the title of the Railway Board remained unchanged, the Board and its staff were designated collectively as the Railway Department, which was distinct from and independent of Department of Commerce and Industry. The Resolution came into force from 1 October 1908.

In 1912, congestion of Indian railways led to the appointment of a fourth member to deal exclusively with traffic problem. But this arrangement was set aside in January 1914 when it was decided that the Board should consist of three members instead of the existing four and each member of the Board, including the President, should be incharge of a Branch or Branches of the Board's work with power to dispose of minor cases without reference to the Board as a whole. Further, one of the members selected was also required to possess financial and administrative or commercial experience. This arrangement was duly approved by the Secretary of State for India. Yet another series of changes in the organizational structure and functioning of the Railway Board were introduced in January 1920, when it was decided that the Board would consist of three railway experts with a Financial Adviser.[1]

1. The Financial Adviser, who would be a member of Finance Department, was to have a seat on the Board for deliberative purposes. He was also given access to all proceedings and files.

In November 1920, Sir William Acworth headed a Committee to further report on the management, finance, future control and organization of the railways. In its report submitted to the Secretary of State for India on 13 September 1921, the Committee recommended various measures aimed at improvement and development of the railway system in India, which involved separation of Railway Finances from the General Finances. It as well secured stability for civil estimates by providing for an assured contribution for Railway Revenues and also to introduce flexibility in the administration of Railway finances. Railway Board was consequently, re-organized with effect from 1 April 1924. Main features of this re-organization scheme were : (i) appointment of a Chief Commissioner as head of the Railway Board, (ii) inclusion in the Railway Board of an officer of the Finance Department to be designated as the Financial Commissioner, (iii) distribution of work among Members of the Railway Board by subjects rather than by territorial divisions, and (iv) strengthening of technical and administrative staff of the Board's office. Four Directors were also appointed for implementing the re-organisation scheme effectively. Each of the Directors headed one of the four main branches, namely, Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, Establishment and Traffic. In 1929, an additional post of Member, Railway Board was created to deal with the staff and labour questions.

In 1937, when Department of Communications was established, Railway Board was put under the Member of the Executive Council incharge of Communications, and the Secretary to the Department of Communications, became *ex-officio* Member of the Railway Board. In July 1942, when the War Transport Department was created, the Railway Board was placed under the Member of Executive Council incharge of this newly created Department[2]. Subsequently, Secretary to Department of War Transport, replaced his counterpart in the Department of Communications as *ex-officio* Member of the Railway Board. This position continued until August 1947.

Following independence of India, the Railway Department was designated as the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) with effect from 29 August 1947. With the introduction of further changes on 1 April 1951, the post of the Chief Commissioner was held in abeyance and a functional member of the Board was made its Chairman, who in that capacity acted as *ex-officio* Secretary to the Government in the Ministry of Railways. The special position of the Financial Commissioner was left undisturbed and he was given the *ex-officio* status of the Secretary to the Government in the Ministry of Railways so far as financial matters were concerned. Moreover, each of the three functional members of the Board was to deal with Engineering, Staff and Transportation questions independently. Further, the Railway Board functioned as a Corporate body and advised the Minister-in-charge on all major questions of railway policy.

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2. War Transport Department had been created to meet the rapidly growing transport requirements caused by World War II.

In October 1954, the Railway Board was enlarged with the inclusion of one more member to its existing strength. Further, the post of Chief Commissioner, which was held in abeyance since 1951, was revived and the Chairman, Railway Board, assumed the powers of the Chief Commissioner. In that capacity, he continued to function as *ex-officio* Secretary to the Government in the Ministry of Railways. During Second Five Year Plan (1956-1961), there was tremendous growth in the volume of work in the Railway Ministry, particularly in respect of planning and execution of various railway projects. It became necessary, therefore, to further strengthen the Board and thus, five additional members of the rank and status of General Managers of Railways were appointed on 25 June 1956 to assist the Board in its work. Each of these five additional members took charge of one of the five distinct groups of subjects, namely, major civil engineering works, remodelling and expansion of mechanical workshops and production units, commercial matters, account, and recruitment and training of staff respectively. The additional members were not required to attend meetings of the Board except on the occasions when they were invited to discuss things relating to their work.

GROWTH OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

Home Department
(1843)

|

Public Works Department
(1855)

|

Railway Board
(1905)

|

Railway Department
(Railway Board)
(1908)

|

Ministry of Railways
(Railway Board)
(1947)

RECORDS AVAILABLE IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

A. Railway Board/Railway Department 1905-1946

B. Ministry of Railways 1947-1955

C. Other Groups

Separate Annual Indices of all the above groups excepting the series under 'Other Groups' are available. Annual Indices of Departments of Home (Public, Revenue), and Public Works may, however, be consulted for the records prior to 1905.

Sl No.	Description	Inclusive years	Bulk	
			Bundles	Volumes
1	2	3	4 (i)	(ii)
	A. RAILWAY BOARD/RAILWAY DEPARTMENT 1905-1946			
	Name of the Branch			
1.	Accounts	1905-1925	17	—
2.	Accounts I	1941-1946	7	—
3.	Accounts II	1941-1946	4	—
4.	Accounts—Establishment	1905-1918	2	—
5.	Air Raid Precautions	1943-1944	3	—
6.	Budget	1924-1946	23	—
7.	Cash	1926-1946	5	—
8.	Code	1937-1941	2	—
9.	Construction	1905-1915	99	—
10.	Establishment	1905-1946	229	—
11.	Finance	1916-1946	93	—
12.	General	1910-1916, 1924-1946	42	—
13.	Labour	1929-1935	15	—
14.	Library	1932-1943	1	—
15.	Mechanical	1944-1946	4	—
16.	Priority	1918-1919	1	—
17.	Project	1905-1925, 1946-	77	—
18.	Programme	1925-1929	41	—
19.	Registrar's	1909-1923	4	—
20.	Reconstruction	1946	1	—
21.	Statistics	1905-1915	56	—
22.	Statistical	1924-1946	74	
23.	Statistical and Technical	1916-1923	40	—
24.	Stores	1905-1942, 1944-1946	245	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
25.	Stores and Mechanical . . .	1943-1944	11	—
26.	Technical	1925-1929	24	—
27.	Traffic	1905-1943	273	—
28.	Traffic (Commercial) . . .	1944-1946	2	—
29.	Traffic (Transportation) . . .	1944-1946	2	—
30.	Traffic (General)	1944-1946	1	—
31.	Way and Works	1916-1925	63	—
32.	Works	1930-1946	110	—

B. MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
1947—1955

Name of the Branch

1.	Accounts I	1947-1955	5	—
2.	Accounts II	1947-1955	5	—
3.	Budget	1947-1955	1	
4.	Cash	1947-1955	2	—
5.	Establishment	1947-1955	52	—
6.	Establishment—Special . . .	1951-1955	12	—
7.	Establishment—Co-operative . .	1953-1955	1	—
8.	Establishment—Tribunal . . .	1955	1	
9.	Economic Adviser's . . .	1954-1955	1	—
10.	Finance	1947-1955	20	—
11.	General	1947-1955	4	—
12.	Mechanical	1947-1955	10	—
13.	Project	1947-1951	4	—
14.	Partition	1948-1951	1	—
15.	Preferential Traffic . . .	1952-1954	1	—
16.	Refugee Traffic	1948	1	—
17.	Reconstruction	1947-1949	1	—
18.	Record	1950	1	—
19.	Railway Equipment Store (Coal) .	1953-1955	3	—
20.	Statistical	1947-1954	2	—
21.	Stores	1947-1952	9	—
22.	Traffic (Commercial) . . .	1947-1955	7	—
23.	Traffic (Transportation) . . .	1947-1955	5	—
24	Traffic (General)	1947-1955	8	—
25.	Telecommunication . . .	1948-1950	1	—
26.	Works	1947-1955	32	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
C. OTHER GROUPS				
	1. Office of the Accountant General of Railways	1911-1929	33	—
	2. Office of the Controller of Railway Accounts.			
	(a) *Name of the Branch*			
	(i) Accounts	1929-1941	96	—
	(ii) Administration . . .	1929-1941	59	—
	(iii) Establishment . . .	1930-1941	65	—
	(iv) General	1929-1941	11	—
	(v) Statistical	1931-1935	9	—
	(b) *Statement of Capital and Revenue accounts of*			
	(i) Assam-Bengal Railway Company .	1892-1921	—	3
	(ii) Bengal Doar's Railway Company .	1897-1916	—	2
	(iii) Bengal and North-Western Railway Company . .	1883-1923	—	3
	(iv) Bengal-Nagpur Railway Company .	1887-1923	—	6
	(v) Bengal Central Railway Company	1881-1902	—	2
	(vi) Bombay-Baroda and Central India Railway	1855-1922	—	14
	(vii) Calcutta South-Eastern Railway .	1859-1874	—	1
	(viii) Delhi-Umballa-Kalka Railway .	1889-1917	—	2
	(ix) East Indian Railway . . .	1851-1923	—	19
	(x) Eastern Bengal Railway Company	1857-1883	—	4
	(xi) Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company	1848-1923	—	12
	(xii) Great South Indian Railway Company	1858-1921	—	11
	(xiii) Indian Tramways Company .	1867-1874	—	1
	(xiv) Indian Branch Railway Company	1848-1871	—	2
	(xv) Indian Midland Railway Company	1885-1907	—	2
	(xvi) Madras Railways Company .	1852-1906	—	12
	(xvii) Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company . . .	1908-1921	—	2

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
(xviii)	Noakhali (Bengal) Railway Company	1900-1906	—	1
(xix)	Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway Company	1867-1917	—	5
(xx)	Rohilkhand and Kumaon Railway	1882-1923	—	3
(xxi)	Sind Railway Company . .	1855-1877	—	7
(xxii)	Sind, Punjab and Delhi Railway Company	1877-1907	—	2
(xxiii)	South Mahratta Railway Company	1882-1908	—	3
(xxiv)	South Bihar Railway Company .	1895-1910	—	1

SOME SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE SERIES

1. Proposal for a rail-line between Calcutta and Mirzapur.
   Home, Revenue, 19 April 1845, Nos 1–3.
2. Report by F. W. Simms, Consultant Engineer to the Government of India, on the proposal for constructing a railway line from Calcutta to Diamond Harbour.
   Home, Legislative, 13 February 1847, No. 17.
3. Minute of Lord Dalhousie on the East Indian Railway Company and introduction of railways in India.
   Home, Railway, 2 August 1850, No. 48.
4. Plan of linking Northern and Sourthern India by railways.
   Public Works, Railway 'A', November 1866, Nos. 17—22.
5. General principles governing delegation of powers of the Governor General in Council under section 144 of the Indian Railways Act, 1890.
   Public Works, Railway Traffic 'A', July 1890, Nos. 38-41.
6. Report by Thomas Robertson, Special Commissioner for Indian Railways, on the administration and working of the Indian railways.
   Public Works, Railway Projects 'A', March 1904, Nos. 30–85.
7. Establishment of a Technical School at Lilluah (West Bengal).
   Public Works, Railway Establishment 'B', July 1904, Nos. 59-60.
8. Provisions of the Railway Board Act of 1905.
   Railway, Railway Traffic 'A', May 1905, Nos. 14–21.
9. *Measures for comforts and* conveniences of third class Railway passengers.
   Railway, Railway Traffic 'A', March 1906, Nos. 16–77.
10. Reconstitution of the Railway Board as the Railway Department on 1st October, 1908.
    Railway, Railway Establishment 'A', November 1908, Nos. 37–48.
11. Precedence given to famine traffic on the railways.
    Railway, Railway Traffic 'A', December 1908, Nos. 1–4.
12. Extension of Locomotive Workshops in Jamalpur.
    Railway, Railway Constructions 'B', December 1908, Nos. 320–322.

13. Proposed adoption on all railways of a general code of whistle to indicate the communication cord having been pulled by a passenger.

Railway, Railway Traffic 'A', November 1911, Nos. 56-57.

14. Report on the work done by Railway Companies in British and German East Africa.

Railway, Railway Establishment 'B', May 1917, No. 642-E-17/1-2.

15. Contribution of the Indian Railways during the First World War.

Railway, Railway Traffic 'A', December 1917, No. I. T-17/3-45.

16. British Columbia timber for Public Services in India.

Railway, Railway Stores 'B', June 1918, No. 637-S-17/1-5.

17. Proposed construction of a light railway from Akhaura to Bircudranagar *via* Agartala in the Hill Tippera State.

Railway, Railway Projects 'B', July 1919, No. 950-P-16/1-13.

18. Report alongwith drawings, on reinforced concrete sleepers by Messrs Rendel Palmer and Tritton, Consulting Engineers to the India Office.

Railway, Railway Stores 'B', August 1919, No. 388-S-18/18-21.

19. Railway Board's memorandum in respect of recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Indian Railways.

Railway, Financial 'A', January 1923, No. 800-F/14-19.

20. Railway development in connection with Sutlej Valley Irrigation Scheme.

Railway, Project, June 1924, No. 1084-P/27.

21. Transfer of administrative control of the Aden Railway to military authorities.

Railway, Project, May 1925, No. 888-P/1-11.

22. History of the Indian Railways : constructed and in progress, corrected upto 31 March 1925.

Railway, Statistics, May 1926, No. 731-St/3-4.

23. Service Regulations affecting Railway Establishments.

Railway, Establishment, June 1929, No. 8373-E/1.

24. Memorandum by Major H. W. Wagstaff on the management and operation of Indian Railways in recent years.
Railway, General, November 1933, No. 72-G-1/1-27.

25. Reconstruction of Railway property damaged by earthquake at Quetta.
Railway, Works, February 1937, No. 2268-W/1-44.

26. •Suggestions from public regarding amendment of the Indian Railways Act, 1890.
Railway, Traffic, October 1940, No. 860-T/61-66.

27. Representations from public regarding standardization of Railway Gauges in India.
Railways, Project, October 1947, No. P 47-C/82-31-45.

28. Construction of new lines in Central India Agency.
Railways, Project, November 1947, No. R 45-C/81/States (4)/1-51.

29. Relief work done fora Muslim Refugee train derailed at Amritsar on 23 September 1947.
Railways, Refugee Traffic, November 1948, No. RT/44/1-9.

30. Review of Refugee Movements, including arrangement for special trains.
Railways, Refugee Traffic, November 1948, No. RT/48/1-7.

31. Construction of new lines in Punjab States.
Railways, Project, October 1951, No. R 45-C/81-States (3)/1-73.

32. Project for electrification of Calcutta sub-urban area and other sections of the Eastern Railway under Aid Programmes for 1954-1955.
Railways, F(X) I, October 1955, No. F(X)I-53/PLN/2/1-46.

MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

Partition days of the Indian sub-continent witnessed one of the largest migration and exodus in human history. The tragedy affected lakhs of people who needed immediate relief and subsequent rehabilitation. The task was enormous and its dimensions were inconceivable. The Government of India, therefore, decided to tackle this problem through the specially created Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation. This Ministry came into existence on 6 September 1947 and it was to deal with the problem of evacuation, reception, dispersal and rehabilitation of people, who had migrated from East and West Pakistan as a result of partition of India.[2]

At the outset, the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation was primarily concerned with making arrangements for the safe and speedy evacuation of Hindus and Sikhs, who wanted to migrate to India. On their arrival in India, they were provided with food, clothing, shelter, and medical attention, inside and outside the camps. As rehabilitation of displaced persons progressed, various organisations were created under the Ministry from time to time to cope with the work that increased enormously. The first important thing that came before the Ministry was to provide proper guidance to the refugees and to inform them about the main activities of the newly constituted Ministry. For this purpose, an Information Bureau was set up in the second week of September 1947.[3]

Safeguard of property of the partition affected people was yet another pressing problem that needed urgent attention. Therefore, on 14 September 1947, Government of the East Punjab promulgated an Ordinance of Evacuee's Property with a view to safeguard the property for the benefit of the owner. Soon after, this Ordinance was extended to Delhi, and Office of the Custodian of Evacuee's Property started functioning to manage Muslim evacuee's property. The Custodian-General managed the evacuee's property and was responsible for the lease of these properties, for their maintenance, and for the collection of rent. The vacant evacuee houses were utilized for providing shelter to the displaced persons.

Massive migration of 1947 had resulted in members of many a family losing contact with each other, and in loss of valuable proper-

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1. According to 1951 Census, about 74,00,000 persons got displaced in the course of the migration.

2. Most of the Provincial Governments also established separate Relief and Rehabilitation Departments—East Punjab and United Provinces being the first to do so in September, 1947.

3. From 15 January, 1948, the Bureau started publishing a journal entitled '*Relief and Rehabilitation*'.

ties. This Ministry, therefore, initiated many steps to trace missing persons and help in the recovery of property. On 1 October 1947, 'Displaced Persons Enquiries, and Search Service Organisaion' was set up to facilitate contact among missing relatives and to re-unite separated families. In addition, Search Service Bureau were established at Amritsar, Delhi, Jallandhar and Kurukshetra to assist the main organisation in its work. On 1 October 1947, itself, Property Claims Offices under separate Registrars, were opened at Delhi and Ajmer. Later, on 10 October 1947, a Fact Finding Organisation was set up to compile record of the first hand evidence relating to tragic incidents that had occurred in Western Pakistan, and Jammu and Kashmir State in the wake of Partition.

Among the many tasks which had to be tackled after Partition, none perhaps was more difficult and yet more urgent than the care and rehabilitation of unattached women and children. Thus, a separate Women Section was created in the Ministry on 24 November 1947 to extend help in recovery of abducted women and children, to organise relief work for them, and to rehabilitate them.[4]

Speedy evacuation of population as caused by mass migration was another important subject that called for government action. So, on 14 January 1948, the post of Director General of Evacuation was created to make necessary arrangements for the speedy evacuation of non-Muslim refugees. Director General of Evacuation was assisted by a Director of Relief stationed at New Delhi, and by a Director of Evacuation, each for Rajputana, Kathiawar, Bombay and Central Province. Two more officers designated as 'Directors' took charge of 'Evacuation' and 'Transit Camp' respectively. These two sections continued to function as part of the Ministry upto 31 March 1948. The Office of Director General of Evacuation was, however, abolished on 16 March 1948, and all its functions were taken over by the Ministry.

The Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation established a Rehabilitation Board on 10 February 1948. This Board was to plan and execute rehabilitation schemes as part of the planned development of the country as a whole. Although it was concerned primarily with urban rehabilitation, it undertook schemes of agricultural development of new areas on the basis of co-operatives or large scale farming. On the whole, the Board concentrated on various development schemes including Housing, Technical and Vocational Training, and Industries, etc.

With effect from 15 February 1948, a separate section called Harijan Section started functioning in the Ministry to look after the interests of Harijan refugees, and their rehabilitation. In June 1949, however, the section was abolished and its work was taken over by

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4. Later separate Women Sections were set up in various Provinces. The Women Section in the Central Ministry continued as an Advisory Board dealing with policy matters.

the Displaced Harijans Rehabilitation Board. A special Employment Bureau was established on 10 March 1948 for registering highly qualified refugees. But this work was soon transferred on 9 July 1948 to the charge of Ministry of Labour.

In 1948, a re-organisation Committee with K. Santhanam, M.L.A. as Chairman, was appointed to review different organisations working under the Ministry, and to suggest its re-organisation. The Committee submitted its report on 17 July 1948 and the Ministry was reorganised accordingly. As a sequal to this re-organisation, 'Information Bureau', 'Registrar of Claims Office' and 'Facts Finding Organisation' were closed. Office of Deputy Director of Relief and Rehabilitation, which had been opened in 1947, was also closed, and its work was taken over by Relief and Rehabilitation Commissioner with effect from 2 August 1948. The Liaison Office at Peshawar, which was set up in 1947, was closed with effect from 8 August 1948, as it was noticed that there was little likelihood of evacuation of remaining non-Muslims from the North-West Frontier Province at an early date.

When relief work for refugees had substantially reduced, the Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation was re-christened as Ministry of Rehabilitation on 25 April 1949. Matters like evacuee's property, claims, compensation, and establishment of shelter for homeless invited immediate attention of the new Ministry.

In October 1949, Government of India promulgated an Ordinance replacing all Provincial and State Evacuees laws, except those in force in the Eastern region. Under this Ordinance, Custodians of Property were appointed in different zones to whom all evacuee's property was vested. Later, this Ordinance was superseded by Administration of Evacuee's Property Act of 1950.[5]

After passing of the Claims Act in 1950, Office of the Chief Claim Officer was created. This Office invited claim applications from persons, who had abandoned their property in West Pakistan. On 1 July 1950, Ministry was able to start registration of these claims, and more than 300 regional centres had to be established in various provinces to handle the job. Claims concerning pensions, provident fund, pay, leave salary and security deposits of displaced government servants and employees of local bodies were dealt with separately by central claims organisations.

In 1950 itself, Government of India established homes and infirmaries with a view to providing shelter and to take care of unattached children, women, and their dependents, and the aged and the infirm, who had no means to support themselves. By the end of 1951, a Central Advisory Board was constituted to co-ordinate

5. The operation of this Act was kept under constant review, and concessions and relaxations were offered from time to time until it was finally repealed in 1954.

activities in this field and it undertook to run institutions with funds provided by the Central Government.

Sudden influx of refugees into West Bengal, Assam and Tripura in early 1950 forced the Ministry of Rehabilitation to set up a Branch of its Secretariat at Calcutta in March 1950, to tackle the problem of rehabilitation of those refugees. A few years later, on 30 June 1954, Evacuee Property Act, which had till then covered the Western Zone only was promulgated to cover Eastern Zone as well.

Meanwhile, on 5 November 1953, Government of India introduced Interim Compensation Scheme, under which payment of compensation was made against verified claims.[6] For speedy implementation of this scheme, Regional Settlement Commissioners were appointed at Delhi, Ajmer, Jalendhar, Bombay, Bhopal, Lucknow Jaipur, Indore, Calcutta and Nagpur. In July, 1954, another scheme called 'National Discipline Scheme' was introduced. Main objective of this scheme was to train the younger generation under a code of discipline, and to infuse in them ideals of good citizenship and comradeship.

The year 1959 marked the beginning of the final phase in the work of rehabilitation of the displaced persons from East Pakistan. In pursuance of the decision to create an effective machinary for setting up of industries, to provide employment to displaced persons, Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Ltd. was established, with headquarters at Calcutta and the Corporation was registered on 13 April, 1959.[7] By the end of 1950s the task of rehabilitation of displaced persons had been more or less complete.[8] Therefore, it was decided to wind up the activities of the Ministry of Rehabilitation and to transfer the routine matters of rehabilitation to Ministry of Works, Mines and Power.

6. The maximum amount payable to any claimant was fixed at Rs. 8000/-. The compensation in each case constituted 16 percent to 20 percent of the amount of verified claim; the balance of the amount was to be given in the form of a rehabilitation grant. This Scheme was replaced by the Final Scheme approved by the Parliament in September, 1955.

7. The Corporation devoted special attention to setting up of small industries as ancillary units to major industries.

8. The only outstanding item was payment of compensation.

MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY

During the course of its activities in India, East India Company undertook civil and military construction works in order to fulfil its political and military objectives. In this context, it constructed numerous bridges, barracks, canals, roads, cantonments and embankments. All such construction works undertaken whether for military or civilian purposes were dealt within the Public Department till 1775. However, when a Board of Ordnance was established on 8 April 1775, for regulating military expenses, matters concerning public works were also transferred to it. But the Board of Ordnance was replaced by the Military Board in May 1786. As a result, all responsibilities of public works, including those connected with construction and repair works, came under the control of the Military Board.

Acceleration of construction works in the first half of the nineteenth century overburdened the Military Board with so much of work that the Board found it difficult to pay adequate attention to all matters concerning public works.[1] Therefore, it was decided in 1850 to withdraw functions relating to public works (civil) from Military Board and transfer them to the Public Branch of the Home Department. Matters concerning military works, however, remained with the Military Board until its abolition on 30 April 1855.

Lord Dalhousie, the Governor-General, expressed his displeasure over the functioning of various public work projects, and described the whole system of Public Works as a 'patchwork'. Consequently, an office of Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Public Works was created and thus came into existence the Public Works Department for the supervision and control of business relating to Public Works. Lt. Col. W. E. Baker of the Bengal Railway was appointed as the first Secretary of the new Department with effect from 7 February 1855. Public Works Department took over all functions relating to Civil Buildings, Roads, Irrigation and Railways from the Public Branch of Home Department. On the abolition of the Military Board on 30 April 1855, all activities of the military construction works also came under the administrative control of the Public Works Department. Business connected with 'Forest', which was both under the Home Department and Foreign Department, was transferred to the Public Works Department on

1. Various projects undertaken in the first half of the nineteenth century were, works on the Eastern and Western *Yamuna* canals (1817—1823), setting up of first public Post Office (1837), construction of first experimental Electric Telegraph Line (1839), and formation of East India Railway Company for construction of railway line (1845).

4 April 1861 in view of the rapidly increasing demand of timber for public works, railway, buildings etc. Later, on 1 April 1864, first Inspector General of Forests was appointed to streamline forest administration in India. Yet another change took place in May 1864 when an Accountant General was appointed in the Public Works Department to put the system of accounts in order.

Meanwhile, in April 1864, work of the Public Works Department was divided among eight branches, namely Military Works, Civil Works, Railway, Establishment, Accounts, Revenue-Forests, Drawing, and Registry.

In September 1865, an Inspector General of Military Works was appointed to supervise all military construction works. The subject 'Irrigation', which was under the Civil Works Branch, was constituted into an independent branch on 1 January, 1867. In September 1869, Military Works, and Civil Works Branches were amalgamated to form one single Branch called "Buildings and Roads Branch."[2] Moreover, on 30 April 1870, all business connected with 'Telegraphs' was transferred to the Public Works Department from the Foreign Department. Matters concerning 'Forests', on the other hand, were transferred from Public Works Department to Department of Revenue, Agriculture and Commerce on its constitution in June 1871.

The Railway Branch of the Public Works Department was entrusted with the expansion of the railway system in India and hence dealt with matters like survey for extension of railways, construction of railway tracks and railway stations, construction and repair of railway property, funds for railways, etc. Initially railways in the country were constructed by two agencies, viz. (1) State Railways and (2) Guaranteed Railways. The State Railways, which were allowed to run through several Provinces and Princely States, were owned by the Government, who had full financial responsibilities over it. The Guaranteed railways, on the other hand, were owned and run by a number of private railway companies. Right of audit and accounts, estimates of expenditure on projects, financial transaction, accounts of stores, etc. of the private railway companies, however, remained with the Government of India.

By the beginning of the twentieth century, expansion of railways in India had reached such a proportion that an independent Railway Board had to be established in 1905. Consequently, the Railway Branch of the Public Works Department was abolished and Railway Board comprising a Chairman and two Members was placed under the administrative control of a newly constituted Deparment of Commerce and Industry. Business relating to Government Coal Mines and Iron Works, Telegraph and Telephones, Railway questions requiring reference to Government of India, and commercial aspects of

2. Building and Roads Branch was, however, split again and the Civil Works and Military Works Branches were restored with effect from June, 1874.

railway administration were also transferred to the new Department from the Public Works Department. With effect from 1 April 1910, the control of audit and accounts of the Public Works Department was transferred to the Finance Department. Consequently, it came under the purview of the Comptroller General.

In 1920, Public Works Department was entrusted with responsibilities of all business connected with allotment of office accommodation to the Government of India Secretariat and it's attached offices. A year later, business relating to Post and Telegraphs, Telephones, Wireless Telegraphy, Cables and Civil Aviation was transferred from the Commerce and Industry Department to the Public Works Department.

Following recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee, Public Works Department was abolished on 4 May 1923, and all it's functions were taken over by Department of Industries and Labour, which had earlier been created in April 1923. But when the Department of Industry and Labour was bifurcated on 8 November, 1937, into Department of Labour, and Department of Communications, all functions concerning Public Works were allotted to Department of Labour[3] However, activities of the Department of Labour increased so tremendously during the course and after the Second World War that it was again split up into two Departments, viz. Department of Works, Mines and Power, and Department of Labour on 8 April 1946. Functions that were allotted to the Department of Works, Mines and Power, included construction and maintenance of all Central Government Works and Estate Office, Central Water-Power, Irrigatio nand Navigation Commission (including coordination of Provincial River Valley Projects), Electricity (including the Central Electricity Commission), Mines and Minerals, Regulation of the Mining Industry (except Coal), Oil Petrol and Petroleum Products (excluding production of Synthetic Petrol and Petrol Rationing), Administration of 'Indian Explosive Act, 1884', 'Boilers Act of 1923', Petroleum Act of 1934, Government printing, and purchase and distribution of stationery to all Government offices.

After independence, Department of Works, Mines and Power became the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power with effect from 29 August 1947.

In 1951, when re-distribution of functions among the Ministries of Government of India took place, work connected with 'Mines and Power' was transferred from the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power to a newly created Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research. But at the same time the subject 'Production and Supply' came under it from the Ministry of Industries and Supply and combined with the subject 'Works'. Consequently, Ministry of Works, Mines and Power was designated as Ministry of Works, Production and Supply. This newly created Ministry was further bifurcated in

3. The subject 'Industries' was taken over by Department of Commerce.

1952 into Ministry of Production, and Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply. Thereafter, functions like Public Works, Housing, Accommodation, Purchase and Disposal of Government Stores, Printing and Stationery, and Explosives and Boilers continued to be administered by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply.

GROWTH OF THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY

Council at Fort William (1748)*

Public
(1764)

Board of Ordnance
(1775)

Military Board
(1785)

Public Department
(Civil Works)
(1850)

Military Board
(Military Works)
(1850)

Public Works Department
(1855)

Department of Industries and Labour
(1923)

Department of Labour
(1937)

Department of Works, Mines and Power
(1946)

Ministry of Works, Mines and Power
(1947)

Ministry of Works, Production and Supply
(1951)

Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply
(1952)

*National Archives of India has in its custody records in regular series from 1748.

RECORDS AVAILABLE IN THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA

A Public Works Department	1855-1923
B. Industries and Labour Department . . .	1923-1937
C. Labour Department	1937-1946
D. Works, Mines and Power Department . .	1946-1947
E. Ministry of Works, Mines and Power . . .	1947-1951
F. Ministry of Works, Production and Supply . .	1951-1952
G. Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply . .	1952-1953
H Other Groups	

Separate Annual Indices of all the above groups, excepting Labour Department and records under Other Groups, are available. Annual Indices of Board of Ordnance, Military Board, Public, Home and Foreign Departments may however be consulted for the records prior to 1855.

Sl. No.	Description	Inclusive years	Bulk: Bundles	Bulk: Volumes
1	2	3	4 (i)	(ii)
	A. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT 1855-1923			
	I. Pre-1860 Records.			
	(a) Public Works :			
1.	Body Sheets	1855-1858	8	—
2.	Consultations	1855-1858	254	218
3.	Consultations, Governor-General's .	1858-1859	9	2
4.	Consultations Governor-General's Ootacamund	1855	2	—
5.	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1855-1859	—	14
	From Court of Directors . . .	1855-1858	2	6
	(b) Railway			
1.	Body Sheets	1855-1859	1	—
2	Consultations	1855-1859	—	4
3.	Despatches :			
	To Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1855-1859	—	8
	From Court of Directors/Secretary of State for India	1855-1859	—	10

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
(c) **Straits Settlements**				
	Consultations	1855-1859*	—	2
II. Post-1859 Records**				
(a) *Name of the Branch*			•	
1.	Accounts	1864-1923	11	5
2.	Accounts-Buildings and Roads	1870-1874	2	1
3	Accounts-General	1870-1923	30	—
4.	Accounts-Irrigation	1867-1923	18	—
5.	Accounts-Military and Civil Works	1877-1881	1	—
6.	Accounts-Railways	1867-1905	9	—
7.	Accounts-State Railways	1879-1905	2	—
8.	Accounts-Telegraph	1870	1	—
9.	Agricultural	1861-1864	2	4
10	Buildings	1864	1	—
11.	Buildings and Roads—Civil Buildings	1864-1879	2	2
12.	Buildings and Roads—Civil Miscellaneous	1864-1879	1	3
13.	Buildings and Roads—Communications	1864-1879	2	6
14.	Buildings and Roads—Military	1864-1879	2	6
15.	Civil Aviation	1921-1923	3	1
16.	Civil Works—Agricultural	1864-1866	4	2
17.	Civil Works—Buildings	1864-1869	10	5
18.	Civil Works—Coal and Iron	1882-1905	17	16
19.	Civil Works—Communications	1864-1869, 1874-1923	2	5
20.	Civil Works—Electricity	1899-1920	17	—
21.	Civil Works—Establishment	1864-1869	2	5
22.	Civil Works—Irrigation	1874-1923	148	—
23.	Civil Works—Miscellaneous	1864-1869, 1874-1923	40	—
24.	Civil Works—Telegraph	1874-1905	40	1
25.	Ecclesiastical	1860-1864	1	1
26.	Educational	1860-1864	1	1
27.	Electric Telegraph	1861	1	—
28.	Establishment—Accounts	1870-1908	3	—
29.	Establishment—Buildings	1872-1881	1	—

*Volumes also include a few consultations for the year 1860.

**Records of the P.W D. from 1860-1923 are under re-arrangement. Hence the information provided is variable.

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
30.	Establishment—Buildings and Roads	1870-1874	1	—
31.	Establishment—Military and Civil Works	1872-1881	1	—
32.	Establishment—General	1870-1887	6	—
33.	Establishment—Irrigation	1867-1879	3	—
34.	Establishment—Railway	1879-1905	1	—
35.	Establishment—Roads	1872-1881	1	—
36.	Establishment—Telegraph	1870-1905	12	1
37.	Famine	1877-1879	6	1
38.	General	1897-1913	28	17
39.	Industrial	1862-1864	—	1
40.	Irrigation	1867-1869	—	3
41	Judicial	1861-1864	—	1
42.	Marine	1860-1864	—	1
43.	Military	1860-1864	—	1
44.	Military Works	1862-1869, 1874-1881	83	1
45.	Miscellaneous	1864	—	1
46.	Municipal	1864	—	1
47.	Naval	1860	—	1
48.	Post Office	1921-1923	7	—
49.	Post and Telegraph Establishment	1921-1923	13	—
50.	Railway	1860-1879	31	—
51.	Railway Accounts	1879-1905	9	—
52.	Railway Construction	1879-1905	55	—
53.	Railway Establishment	1879-1905	16	—
54.	Railway Projects	1879-1905	6	—
55.	Railway Statistics	1891-1905	29	—
56.	Railway Stores	1879-1905	5	—
57.	Railway Traffic	1879-1905	36	—
58.	Revenue	1861-1864	4	4
59.	Revenue Forests	1864-1871	31	29
60.	Telegraph	1921-1923	10	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
(b) *Despatches*				
	To Secretary of State for India . .	1861-1912	42	4
	From Secretary of State for India .	1860-1896	3	5

B. **INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR DEPARTMENT 1923-1937**

(For details See pages 17-18)

C. **LABOUR DEPARTMENT 1937-1946**

Name of the Branch

1. Accounts-Civil Works . . .	1937-1945	1	—
2. Accounts-General	1939-1946	4	—
3. Administration	1945	1	—
4. Aerodrome Construction . . .	1942-1945	1	—
5. Civil Works-Building . . .	1938-1942	7	—
6. Civil Works—W I	1945	1	—
7. Civil Works—W II	1943-1945	1	—
8. Civil Works—W III . . .	1945-1946	1	—
9. Civil Works—Miscellaneous . .	1942-1944	1	—
10. Establishment	1938-1945	5	—
11. General	1938-1945	4	—
12. Miscellaneous	1939-1945	1	—
13. Stationery and Printing . . .	1937-1946	3	—

D. **WORKS, MINES AND POWER DEPARTMENT 1946-1947**

Name of the Branch

1. Accounts—General	1946	1	—
2. Administration	1946	1	—
3. Aerodrome Construction . . .	1946	1	—
4. Civil Works—W I	1946	1	—
5. Civil Works—W II	1946	1	—
6. Civil Works—W III	1946	1	—
7. Establishment	1946	9	—
8. General	1946	1	—

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
E.	**MINISTRY OF WORKS, MINES AND POWERS 1947-1951**			
	Name of the Branch			
	1. Accounts—General	1947	1	—
	2. Administration	1947-1950	1	—
	3. Civil Works—W I	1947-1951	2	—
	4. Civil Works—W II	1947-1950	2	—
	5. Civil Works—W III	1947-1951	1	—
	6. Civil Works—W IV	1948-1951	2	—
	7. Establishment	1947-1951	8	—
	8. General	1947-1949	1	—
	9. Stationery and Printing	1947-1950	3	—
F.	**MINISTRY OF WORKS' PRODUCTION AND SUPPLY 1951-1952**			
	Name of the Branch			
	1. Administration	1951-1952	1	—
	2. Civil Works—W I	1951-1952	2	—
	3. Civil Works—W II	1951-1952	3	—
	4. Civil Works—W III	1951	1	—
	5. Civil Works—W IV	1951	1	—
	6. Establishment	1951-1952	2	—
G.	**MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY 1952-1953**			
	Name of the Branch			
	1. Administration	1952	1	—
	2. Civil Works—W I	1952-1953	1	—
	3. Civil Works—W II	1952	3	—
	4. Establishment	1952	1	—
	5. General	1952-1953	1	—
	6. Housing I	1952	4	—
	7. Stationery and Printing	1952	1	—
H.	**OTHER GROUPS**			
I.	**Local Governments Records** (Public Works Department)			
	(a) Bengal			
	Letters from Court of Directors	1850-1854	—	1
	Narration of Proceedings	1855-1859	—	3

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
	(b) Bombay			
	Letters to and from Court of Directors	1850-1859	—	54
	Despatches to and from Secretary of State for India	1860-1884	—	23
	Public and Railway Diary	1853-1856	—	1
	(c) Madras			
	Proceedings	1857-1859	—	6
	Letters to and from Court of Directors	1854-1859	—	12
	Despatches to and from Secretary of State for India	1860-1884	—	28
	Public and Railway Diary	1855-1859	—	1
	(d) North-West Provinces			
	Proceedings	1855-1859	—	3
	Railway Papers	1855-1862	2	—
II.	MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS			
1.	Acquittance Rolls	1861-1904	—	77
2.	Simla Allowance Bills	1889-1907	—	18
3.	Register of Letters received from Simla Office	1906 1922	—	2
4.	Register of Proceedings sent to Simla	1914	—	1
5.	List of papers despatched to the Public Works Department at Simla	1904-1911	—	1
6.	Register of Receipts and Issues of General Stationery	1905-1917	—	1
7.	Register of Books	1897-1905	—	2
8.	European Service Leave Rules	1895-1900	—	2
9.	Public Works Department Library Register	1877-1880	—	1
10.	Public Works Department Irrigation Branch, Register of Sanctions accorded by the Government of India	1875-1902	—	1
11.	List of 'A', 'B' Proceedings and Files transferred to the Railway Board	1914-1919	—	2
12.	List of Railway Papers and Proceedings transferred to the Railway Board	1893-1898	—	1
13.	List of 'B' Proceedings and Files transferred to Finance Department	1914-1917	—	1
12.	List of Proceedings transferrred to the Commerce and Industry Department	1914-1915	—	1
15.	Un-Official Registers	1905-1914	—	12
16.	Re-organisation of the Engineer Establishment	1881-1909	—	4
17.	Re-organisation of the Engineer Establishment and Subsidiary Orders	1892-1893	—	1

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
18.	Revision of the Strength-Recruitment of the Engineer Establishment . . .	1887-1909	—	3
19.	Engineer and Upper Subordinate Establishments; Bengal, N.W.P. and Oudh and Punjab; Local Administrations . .	1887-1896	—	2
20.	Public Works Department Accounts Series Residences for Heads of Local Governments and Administrations. Limitation of Expenditure	1879-1895	—	1
21.	Public Works Department Establishment Branch Local Allowances . . .	1896-1909	—	2
22.	P.W.D. General, Promotions of Engineers, State Railways	1885-1896	—	1
23.	P.W.D. General Correspondence regarding Practical Training in England of Engineers who are Natives in the Statutory sense .	1885-1896	—	1
24.	P.W.D. General, More Extended Employment of natives of India. Report of the Public Service Commission and Establishment of a Provincial Service for the Engineer Branch of the P.W.D. . .	1886-1895	—	1
25	P.W.D. Chief and Superintendent Engineer's Promotions	1885 1910	—	6
26.	P.W.D. Office Order Book . . .	1864-1888	—	4
27.	P.W.D. Account Register . . .	1870-1877	—	1
28.	Sample of the Standard Forms as used in the Public Works Department, Government of India	—	—	1
29.	Governor-General's Diary . . .	1860-1863	—	3
30.	Register of Contingency Bills	1871-1877	—	2
31.	P.W.D. Inspection Reports . .	1858-1867	—	2
32.	Portfolio of plans to accompany Embankment Report. Irrigation Circle . .	1918-1919	—	1
33.	Portfolio of Plans to accompany Report on Irrawady Embankments, Delta Circle	1919-1920	—	1
34.	Civil Works Irrigation Proceedings (Album containing various photos regarding Irrigation and Canal)	1883	—	1
35.	P.W.D. Abstract of Revenue and Expenditure in India.	1869	—	1
36.	P.W.D. Hyderabad. General Abstract of Revenue and Receipts	1879	—	1
37.	Stores Series, Supply of Stores for the Public Service in India	1868-1896	—	1
38.	Public Works Irrigation Proceedings, Canal Series	1855-1892	—	54
39.	Public Works Irrigation Canal Series .	1870-1897	—	67
40.	P.W.D. Civil Works-Famine Relief Series; Famine Commission Report. List of Works suitable for Famine Relief Works	1874-1884	—	1

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
41.	P.W.D. Civil Works-Buildings and Roads Series; Viceregal Lodge and Staff Houses	1872-1896	—	3
42.	P.W.D. Civil Works-Buildings and Roads Series. Frontier Roads-Dera Gazi Khan Road	1887-1893	—	1
43.	P.W.D. Civil Works-Buildings and Roads Series; Rent chargeable for Government Buildings occupied as Residences	1887-1895	—	1
44.	P.W.D. Civil Works Buildings Series; New Imperial Secretariat Building at Calctuta	1889-1892	—	1
45.	P.W.D. General Famine Committee Notes	1888	—	1
46.	P.W.D. Famine Relief Works, Rajputana	1891-1892	—	1
47.	P.W.D. Famine Relief Works, Upper Burma	1892-1893	—	1
48.	East India (Report of the Famine Commission) Miscellaneous papers bearing upon the condition of the country and people of India	1881	—	1
49.	P.W.D. Cash Book for contingent charges, Calcutta Office	1905-1922	—	1
50.	P.W.D. Simla Improvements—Clerks, Barracks	1886-1892	—	2
51	P.W.D. Circulars	1861-1891	—	139
52.	P.W.D. Notifications	1865-1898	—	18
53.	Budget Supplement	1935-1941	—	11
54.	India Railways Câpital and Revenue Accounts	1897-1940	—	56
55.	Finance Accounts	1907-1940	—	31
56.	Register of State Railways Capital	1894-1933	—	78
57.	Abstract Register Capital	1931-933	—	3
58.	Imperial Register of Receipts and Charges of the Capital Accounts of State Railways	1921-1927	—	1
59.	London Accounts	1907-1922	—	1
60.	London Stores Account	1910-1921	—	1
61.	Monthly London Account Current	1921-1922	—	1
62.	London Account Quarterly Abstract Receipt Register	1910-1921	—	1
63.	Abstract of Schedules of the Railway Department Account Current	1921-1930	—	2
64.	Register State Railways Revenue	1909-1932	—	29
65.	Abstract Register Revenue Accounts	1932-1933	—	1
66.	State Railway Stores Branch Journal	1913-1917	—	4

1	2	3	4 (i)	4 (ii)
67.	State Railway Stores Branch; Register of Receipts and Charges	1908-1924	—	2
68.	Account Current of the High Commissioner for India	1938-1939	—	2
69.	Account Current of the Secretary of State for India and High Commissioner for India	1939-1940	—	1
70.	Statements of Payment in England by the Secretary of State for India and the High Commissioner for India	1935-1938	—	2
71.	Payments Register	1924-1927	—	1
72.	English Payments Register	1932-1933	—	1
73.	Report by the Agent	1936-1937	—	1
74.	Original Papers regarding construction of capital at Delhi	1913-1934	1	—

SOME SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE SERIES

1. Report of an experiment made with coal-tar and coal-tar varnish on bridges and palisadoing of Fort William.

   Military Board, Proceedings Volume, 16 November 1789.

2. Construction of a Workshop, Mechanics, House, and other rooms at Dum Dum.

   Military Board, 1 August 1820, No. 7.

3. Bomb Proof Barracks in garrison considered unhealthy and unfit for reception of Europeans during the hot season.

   Military Board, 22 August 1820, No. 2.

4. Construction of air furnaces in the foundry of Fort William.

   Military Board, 14 December 1830, No. 89.

5. Re-organisation of the Military Board.

   Military Board, 21 December 1830, Nos. 1-4.

6. Statement of Public Utility Works constructed in Bombay Presidency at the expense of Government during the year 1846.

   Home, Public, 7 August 1847, Nos. 16-17.

7. Constitution of Public Works Department and appointment of Lt. Col. W. C. Baker as its Secretary.

   Home, Public, 9 February 1855, Nos. 44-47.

8. Construction of new lines for the Arracan Battalion as Akyab.

   Public Works, Military, 9 March 1860, Nos. 11-14.

9. Register of lands taken up by the Government for railway purposes.

   Public Works, Railway, 16 March 1860, Nos. 6-7.

10. Proposed construction of an annicut (Dam) across the *Punnyar* river in South Arcot.

    Public Works, Agriculture, 23 March 1860, Nos. 1-3.

11. Improvement of Buildings in the European Infantry at Rangoon.

    Public Works, Military, 27 May 1861, No. 50.

12. Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the system of Public Works Accounts.

    Public Works, Accounts 'A', July 1864, Nos. 57-68.

13. Reorganisation of the Public Works Secretariat.
    Public Works, Establishment 'A', November 1864, Nos. 1-3.
14. Explorations of the Damodar Valley and proposal to construct a canal for irrigation from Raneegung to the *Hooghly* river.
    Public Works, Irrigation 'A', March 1867, Nos. 41-45.
15. Functions of the Inspector General of Irrigation Works.
    Public Works, Irrigation 'A', July 1867, Nos. 11-16.
16. Enhancement of Land Revenue consequent on the introduction of canal irrigation.
    Public Works, Irrigation 'A', January 1869, No. 27.
17. Improvement of the system of irrigation in the eastern section of the *Godavari* delta.
    Public Works, Irrigation 'A', March 1871, Nos. 63-65.
18. Proposal to manufacture cement in the North-Western Provinces.
    Public Works, Irrigation 'A', June 1872, Nos. 13-17.
19. Adoption of Suez canal route in preference to the Cape route for shipment of stores.
    Public Works, Accounts—State Railways 'A', August 1876, Nos. 35-36.
20. Use of Morocco and country-made leather in preference to 'American Cloth' for carriage coverings of State Railways.
    Public Works, Accounts—State Railways 'A', June 1877, Nos. 24-31.
21. Payment of moiety of the surplus profits by the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway Company to the Government.
    Public Works, Railway Construction 'A', March 1888, Nos. 235-247.
22. Statement showing financial results of irrigation works in India for the years 1886-1887.
    Public Works, Accounts-Irrigation 'A', May 1888, Nos. 4-9.
23. Exhibition of Indian Art Manufactures at Delhi in January 1903 during the Coronation Darbar ceremonies and arangements for the construction and fitting up of exhibition building.
    Public Works, General 'A', June 1902, Nos. 11-20.
24. Employment of Messrs Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker as architects in connection with the construction of New Capital at Delhi.
    Public Works, Civil Works-Buildings 'A', November 1913, Nos. 1-19.

25. Establishment of Central Public Works Department.

Industries and Labour, File No. G-10/1930.

26. A note on the history of the Central Public Works Department.

Industries and Labour, Public Works, File No. E-16 (61)/1936.

27. Decision that the ornamental tanks or fountains in New Delhi should not be filled without prior reference to the Officer-in-charge, anti-Malaria.

Labour, File No. B-3(169)/1940.

28. Taking over of the Governor General's building "Belvedere" by the Ministry of Works, Mines and Power for housing the National Library, Calcutta.

Works, Mines and Power, File No. WIV-11(51)/1948.

29. Proposal to set up a separate printing press for the Indian Parliament.

Works, Mines and Power, File No. A-597/1950.

30. Constitution of Committee for the management of Rajghat Samadhi, New Delhi.

Works, Mines and Power, File No. WI-20(198)/1950.

31. Proposal for a Bill to replace Requisitioned Land (Continuance of Powers) Ordinance, XIX of 1946.

Works, Mines and Power, File No. W IV-4(71)/1950.

APPENDIX

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF INDIA
HISTORICAL RESEARCH RULES, 1982

1.0 *Access to Records*: These rules shall govern access to open records in the custody of the National Archives of India and its regional offices. The privilege of consulting such records personally by any adult citizen will be generally limited to the Records which are more than 30 years old, subject to such exceptions and restrictions as may be found necessary by the concerned creating agencies. The Ministries/Departments and other offices may, in consultation with the Director of Archives, grant special access to records not transferred to the National Archives of India, as also to records otherwise 'closed', but available in the National Archives of India.

1.1 The records of the Ministries of External Affairs and Defence pertaining to areas comprising Arunachal Pradesh (including Eastern Sector of the Sino-Indian Border), Sikkim, Bhutan, Nepal, Tibet and China, and areas now comprising Pakistan and Bangladesh, are open upto 31st December, 1913 only.

1.2 Records of the Ministries of External Affairs, Home Affairs, and Human Resource Development where they pertain to Jammu and Kashmir (including Gilgit and Chitral) are open upto 31st December 1924 only.

2.0 *Eligibility for Research* : Normally, all adult Indian citizens of 21 years of age or above are eligible to avail of the research facilities at the National Archives of India, subject to their undertaking to abide by the rules and regulations prescribed from time to time for the Research Room.

2.1 All applications seeking to conduct research at the National Archives of India should be made to the Director of Archives on a prescribed form.

3.0 *Foreign Scholars* : Foreign scholars wishing to consult records in the National Archives of India should bring letters of introduction from the universities, learned institutions sponsoring their candidature, as also another letter addressed to the Director of Archives, Government of India, from their respective Diplomatic mission in India.

3.1 Foreign scholars submitting their research projects through Indian Missions abroad, or through Foreign Institutions based in India, or such cases where their research project would involve field work, will require necessary clearance from Ministry of Human Resource

Development, which will invariably endorse copies of such clearance letters to the National Archives of India well in advanvc of the arrival of the foreign scholars. To avoid any loss of time after their arrival in the country, it is advisable that these scholars should send their applications well in advance direct to the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Education), Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001. Scholars under this category will be admitted to the Research Room only after such clearance has been received by the National Archives of India from the Ministry.

4.0 *Access to Library Material* : Access to the Library material will be governed by the rules prescribed for the purpose (see Library Rules). This material can be consulted in a separate Reading Room attached to the Library.

5.0 *Access to Private Archives* : Private Papers of eminent Indians and other acquired documents can be consulted by the Research Scholars subject to the conditions laid down by the donors. These papers shall be made available to them in the 'Private Archives' Section on working days during office hours only.

6.0 *Timings* : The Research Room remains open on all days of the year excepting Sundays and three national holidays i.e. 26 January, 15 August and 2 October.

6.1 Research Room is open from 09.00 hours to 20.00 hours on all working days. On holidays, it remains open from 09.00 hours to 17.30 hours.

7.0 *Admission and Registration* : Admission to the premises of the National Archives of India is regulated by means of Home Ministry passes. Pending receipt of such regular passes, temporary passes valid for a month will be issued to the scholars who fill in the prescribed form in duplicate. The passes must be shown at the main entrance and visitors will on each visit be required to enter their name, address, etc., in the Register kept for this purpose. Scholars shall keep their personal belongings in the lockers provided for the purpose outside the Research Room, and they should collect a token against the same from the person on duty. Persons arriving on a Saturday or other holidays without a pass will not be allowed to enter the permises.

7.1 Indian scholars wishing to avail of the facility of National Readers Card Scheme could do so on payment of Rs. 5/- as Registration fee, and submitting 2 copies of their pass-port size photographs. These cards may be obtained from the National Archives of India, and also from the State Archives Offices. The holders of the National Readers card would be treated as Research Scholars and even in the absence of the regular Home Ministry pass, they can enter the Research Room when the regular reception office does not function (Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays, as also before 9.30 and after 18.00 hours) by showing the National Readers Card to the Sentry, and

after making necessary entries in the Register kept at the entrance exclusively for use by such card holders. However, these card holders will also have to complete the procedural formalities to get the Home Ministry pass issued in their favour. The card holders will also enjoy similar working facilities at various State Archives on getting the card duly endorsed by the Director of the respective State Archives. A provision to this effect has been made in the card.

7.2 No seat in the Research Room will be reserved individually. A separate cubicle has been earmarked for scholars wanting to use Microfilm Readers.

7.3 Silence shall be maintained in the Research Room.

7.4 No person will be allowed to bring eatable into the Research Room. Smoking, chewing 'Pan' etc., is strictly prohibited in the Research Room. A lounge adjacent to the Research Room has been provided for these purposes.

7.5 Scholars should notify the staff counter at least one day in advance before their departure date so as to arrange for their clearance.

8.0 *Supply of Records* : No record/book/microfilm shall be delivered to a scholar until he/she has submitted to the staff counter a duly signed requisition slip prescribed for this purpose. The requisitions should be put into the box kept for the purpose at the counter.

8.1 A separate slip must be used for every item of required material. Care should be taken in filling up the requisition slip legibly with correct and complete references to the books in order to ensure prompt service. Requisitions can be made four time daily at 10.30, 12.30, 14.00 and 15.30 hours on all working days.

8.2 Normally, not more than ten items of records and five manuscript indexes would be issued to a scholar at a time, but working conditions permitting, this rule may be relaxed.

8.3 Requisitioned material shall normally be brought direct to the scholar's table, excepting in case when the scholar has already the maximum permissible number of reading material on his/her table, or he/she is absent. In such circumstances, the scholar should report at the staff counter when he/she is ready to use the material.

8.4 Since the Muniment Room/Library remains closed on Saturdays, Sundays and other holidays, scholars are advised to get their material for study a day in advance. When a scholar has finished with a record/book/microfilm, he/she should hand it over at the counter and get back his/her requisition slip.

8.5 Scholars will be held responsible for the material for study issued to them so long as they are not cancelled from proforma.

8.6 Those wishing to have records/books/microfilms kept out for their use should inform the staff at the counter.

9.0 *Care of Records* : Scholars shall exercise every care in handling the requisitioned material and shall see that they are not damaged in any way.

9.1 It is forbidden to make any pencil, ink, or other marking in any requisitioned material, or to do any thing to deface them.

9.2 No requisitioned material shall be transferred from one reader to another unless the Research Room staff has been so informed, and a fresh requisition form completed.

9.3 No books, papers, or other articles should be laid upon the open pages of the requisitioned material.

9.4 No scholar shall ever lean on any of the documents or place upon them the paper on which he/she is writing.

9.5 No scholar shall be entitled to examine records/books which have been labelled "Unfit for Production."

10.0 *Reprographic Facilities* : Microfilming, Xeroxing and Photocopying services are available at the National Archives of India on a written request by the scholar. For this purpose Scholars, are required to fill in the prescribed form (in duplicate) alongwith a duplicate list of their requirements. These facilities are provided on payment as per prevailing rates, which are subsidised. Schedule of rates for different reprographic services, which is subject to revision, is enclosed. While placing an order for a specific job, 80% of the estimated cost will be required to be deposited in advance. As a rule, only a single copy for research purpose will be supplied to a scholar.

11.0 *Transcription Facilities* : Transcription work is undertaken by the typists of the National Archives of India on behalf of a scholar at the rates prescribed (see Schedule of Rates for Transcription Services).

12.0 *Information Service* : Search among the 'open' records is undertaken by the National Archives of India on behalf of individuals and institutions on payment of prescribed fee of Rs. 20/- per day.

13.0 *Acknowledgements* : Any Scholar who uses the records in the National Archives of India for purposes of his historical research and publishes his work based on material from these records, shall deposit with the National Archives of India Library, a copy of his work free of charge immediately after it's publication.

14.0 *Revocation of Research Facility* : The privilege of personal consultation of records in the Research Room may, at the dis-

cretion of the Director of Archives, Government of India, be withheld in public interest.

14.1 In case of any dispute regarding these rules and their interpretation, the decision of the Director of Archives, Government of India, would be final and binding.

LIBRARY RULES

1. The Library is open on all working days from 0930 to 1800 hours.

2. The National Archives Library, being primarily a research Library, normally caters to the needs of the members of the staff in connection with their official work, the Research Scholars, and Trainees of the School of Archival Studies.

3. Every intending borrower of books from the National Archives Library shall have his name registered in the Library by furnishing the undermentioned particulars about himself/herself : (i) Full name, (ii) Permanent and Local address, (iii) Profession, (iv) Specimen signature and (v) A suitable reference, e.g. sponsoring bodies, appropriate officer-in-charge, Head of the Learned Institutions or their Librarians. The Director of Archives may, however, accept any recommendation he considers fit.

4. Reference books, encyclopaedias, directories, dictionaries, Parliamentary Papers, historical books required constantly for office work, rare and out of print publications, technical books including books on art, current journals, daily newspapers, and bound volumes of periodicals shall be consulted only in the premises. Journals issued for consultation must be returned to the Library within seven days. In very exceptional cases these publications will be lent out to learned institutions with the special permission of the Director of Archives.

5. Damaged books and publications in a bad state of preservation shall not be issued on loan.

6. The books will be issued on a Pass Book which will be provided to the borrower by the Library at the time of registration. The borrower shall be responsible for the safe custody of the Pass Book issued to him/her. In case of loss a duplicate Pass Book will be issued against a deposit of Rs. 5/-.

7. The borrowers shall be personally responsible for the safe custody and safe return of the books borrowed by them, and in no case are they permitted to pass on books to any other person. A book lost or damaged in any way by a borrower shall have to be replaced or paid for by him/her. The evaluation of the cost of books not procurable from the market will rest with the Director of Archives.

8. At a time a maximum of 12 volumes will be issued to each individual borrower.

9. If more volumes are considered necessary for members of the staff, the appropriate officer-in-charge will countersign such loans for the staff working in his/her section.

10. In no case the borrower is permitted to take home those books which have been issued to him/her for official work. However, one book at a time will be lent out for Home Study to the members of the staff only. All books and publications mentioned above in No. 4 shall not be issued for Home Study.

11. Basic reference books constantly required for work in the different sections will be issued to the section-in-charge on semi-permanent loan. The section-in-charges shall maintain a register of such publications for checking by the Library once a year.

12. Borrowers are required to fill in requisition slips which shall ordinarily be entertained up to 1600 hours. Requisitions from the Research Scholars are to be routed through the Incharge, Research Room invariably.

13. Ordinarily books shall be lent for a period of 15 days, after which they may be renewed for two weeks more.

14. Books on loan with the borrowers can be called back by the Library at any time.

15. Books should be returned to the charging counter before 1600 hours.

16. Borrowers will have to obtain a clearance certificate from the Library in case of transfer, retirement, etc.

17. A Research Scholar should intimate the date of his/her departure to the Librarian three days in advance. The trainees should return all the books borrowed by them at least seven days before their leaving the Department.

18. Books requisitioned from outside agencies on terms of Inter-Library loan shall not be issued for Home Study.

19. Slips for books to be requisitioned from other local libraries should normally be sent to the charging counter before 12 noon; otherwise slips will be held over till the next working day.

20. The Ministries and other Government and Semi-Government agencies desirous of obtaining books from this Library on loan should send their requisitions through their Librarians or the Departmental Heads as the case may be. In all other respects the General Rules of the Library will apply.

21. Smoking, taking tea or edibles are strictly prohibited inside the Library.

REPROGRAPHIC SERVICE

Schedule of Rates

	Charges Rs.
1. Negative Microfilm :	
(a) Rate per exposure	1.60
(b) Minimum Charges	30.00
(c) Rebate for 30m × 35mm negative microfilm, if supplied	150.00
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(a) Rate per metre	16.00
(b) Minimum charges	50.00
(c) Rebate for 30m × 35mm positive microfilm, if supplied	75.00
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(a) Rate	13.00 for 600 sq. cm. or part thereof
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(a) Rate per copy	1.00
(b) Minimum charges	5.00
6. Special Copying	As per estimates in each case.

N.B. : — The cost of making the negative when required will be extra as in (1) above.

TRANSCRIPTION SERVICES

Schedule of Rates

1. Transcription rate covering a foolscap paper in double space.	1.00 Per copy
2. Additional copies	0.20 Per copy
3. Typing Statements—foolscap paper	2.00 Per copy

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